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The lesson for our politicians is clear: Candidates want a lecture document. They want to feel that we're doing our part. And they value our friendship with the U.S. (notwithstanding the White House's current tenor). Joining in a missile defense program unifies all of our best interests. It's time for a real debate. ■

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"Too much emphasis is put on breast exams and research. Meanwhile, women keep dying."



OH, BELINDA!

DOB ANYONE catch the fact that Belinda Strenth was on the cover of *Maclean's* magazine just again ("Reversal of Fortunes," Cover, Oct. 6)? How many times is that in the past two years? It seems as if now a fairly common occurrence that either Strenth or Pam Hillman graces the cover of "Canada's Magazine of the Year." What seems to be becoming clear is that beyond the constant media hype, these women's principles, substance or education to back Strenth up. It is said that Canadians are being duped by all this attention because the only thing worse in politics than being talked about is not being talked about. While I assure that some Canadians are convinced Strenth's "accomplishments" in politics and those of other great female politicians, such as Renée Hickey, Margaret Thatcher or Condoletta Rice, who would rather that others will support her every mistake far as someone other than she is a female politician. Robert Miller, Halifax

WHEN CHOOSING our leaders, be they political or otherwise, one who should a) her own personal character be irrelevant? Belinda Strenth clearly has no experience to lead this country—far enough. However, considering her willingness to flog some fairly significant women with spectacular flair, it's a bit surprising a political neophyte, I cringe thinking of what led this capable of inspiring to get her quit for the top job post. Dr. Phil? "If they'll let me, you, they'll do it to you" general rule applies for both backslashing and screwing around, and should serve as an apt warning for Canadians to stay out of Belinda's bed. Sherrice Boudewijns, Winnipeg

THE AUTHOR of the article on Belinda not only shows her ignorance of what constitutes a "quick, sharp sense of humour," but also shows it in her subject. The conchick Belinda makes regarding having a "retalious" physician an unnecessary unrelated that feminist cause and an unpleasant necessity to the prevention of prostate cancer, and should not be made fun of, particularly by one who must and works in the public eye. Belinda is one of my least favourite politicians, and reading the conchick has edged her even further down on my resentment. Krystyn Chapelsky, Toronto

THE ONE ABOUT THE POPE

BARRACK AMBELL, now Christianity as much more benign light than it deserves ("Finally, someone who cares about Christians," Opinion, Oct. 9). She refers to it as "a faith that has reconciled itself with reason," and yet the Pope, whom she applauds, is shown that Canada has turned as black as God (endowed by his low birth rate) and that the use of condoms to prevent AIDS is a sin. He is also asked to reject the science of evolution for the pseudo-science of intelligent design. To a large degree, President Bush's policies are shaped by his Christianity, and it will take decades for the world to recover from this. Both the Muslim and Christian religions have a lot to be learned of, and it was stupid for the Pope to be "throwing stones." How about caring about humanity rather than just Christians? Jack Urvach, Professor of Pharmacy and Medicine, University of Toronto, Toronto



RESPOND TO MR. AMBELL. I don't always agree with her opinions, but she does call a spade a spade. I really appreciate her calling out how socially Western societies are bowing down to a different ideology than many of our people and freedom in our lives. Muslims and secular Muslims expected to give up so that these extremists can have what they want? How much longer until we find ourselves in the direction of Islamism? Christians? You and your spouse came home from work to find your children in police custody. My brother acquired a gift from a Muslim, your children

have "chosen" to convert to Islam, are being adopted to a Muslim family, and there is nothing you can do about it. Jeff Perry, Edmonton

FREQUENTLY IMAGINE with Barbara Amiel, but this time the hat the hat right on the head. All the Pope was doing was reading scripts, they were not his words, and look how the Muslims reacted. Hope they never get to rule the world. It's about time people without war Muslims react by "infidels." Jim Matthews, Province, B.C.

THE PROBLEM WITH PINK

WHAT A RELIEF to finally see someone else speak out about this pink-tinted, Islamic moral (Toronto, Oct. 6). I have attended many breast cancer events over the years, and I have never once heard any conversation about what individual women can do to prevent this disease. How better speak could this money be than by informing women of how to care for their bodies and keep them healthy? Too much emphasis has been placed on promoting cancer breast exams and questionable early research. Meanwhile, women keep dying. Early detection is not prevention! Nelly Duggan, Ottawa

LET ME get this straight: You buy a tub of yogurt, take the lid, spend 51 cents plus GST to send it to the manufacturer so that they can send 50 cents to a breast cancer charity, someone writes a book about it, and you get two pages to discuss it? Amazing. Why not give the postage to the charity? Sam Hickey, Don Mills, Ont.

9/11'S A HOAX BECAUSE...

AS THE SUBJECT of Mark Steyn's article "Call me crazy I blame terrorism" (Weeks, Sept. 4), I thought it would be only fair to allow the contrived of low-level Pan, Steyn suggested the main thrust of the investigative work of our past 15 years, scientists, engineers, high-ranking military personnel, intelligence officers and other experts. That work involves no "theories" of any kind, it can only be described in forensic analysis. The article of Sept. 11 simply did not happen as described by the Bush White House. Steyn reports the malicious intention that the 16-foot hole in the Pentagon was made by the landing gear of the

incoming aircraft. Excuse me, but that was the only hole in the Pentagon. Where did the rest of the gigantic 757 go to? No better illustration could be found of the "sarkistic" that characteristic media criticism of our work. There is a very simple reason why 16 per cent of Americans believe that Bush was complicit in the attacks: it's the evidence. Those who wish to remain inside the box would be better off not reading—or they could wait as *Sept. 11* and simply avoid examining the evidence too closely.

A.K. Dewdney, Professor of Computer Science, University of Western Ontario, London, Ont.

BILINGUAL HYPOCRISY

PAUL WELLS's remarks regarding Stéphane Dion's inability to express himself adequately in English ("Can the boss man wuv? National, Oct. 9) smashes the head of hypocrisy as it relates to our so-called bilingual country. Proficiency in both official languages has long been considered mandatory in order for one to become prime minister. Why not in Dion's case? Tim Zalkin, Markham, Ont.

DON'T GRAB THAT BIG MAC

BEING A VEGITARIAN, I'm all for restaurants being certain menu items ("Would you like some fries with that?" Health, Oct. 9). However, I feel that making a mandatory law to restaurants to list the exact nutritional breakdown of their food is a little excessive. Maybe if we didn't live in a workaholic society, people would have more time to get outside, move their bodies and make better food choices, instead of being stuck at their desks all day, only allowing themselves enough time to go and grab a Big Mac. The only person responsible for what you eat is you—why not instead make it mandatory for restaurants to have the information available so that when you eat, that way making it more proactive on the diner's part? I look at eating out as one of the rare occasions where I can enjoy slightly, indulge, and thoroughly enjoy myself. I'd like to keep my few guilty pleasures guilty. Brian McMillan, Toronto

'GO RICKY GO!'

YOUR BLURP on the Ricky Williams affair (Good News, Oct. 9) was so engaging, I was shocked by it. As a factual writer, you stated regarding the Argos' chances of a playoff run was unrepresentative at best. I read like a sports opinion page, not a news magazine. How is a playoff run doubtful if the Argos are currently tied for first in the East? Even more disturbing was how you ridiculed Ricky Williams. Here is a man who is trying his best

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7 DAYS
OF
THE
WEEK

A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF PTE. JEFFREY HUNTER

Hours after surviving a grenade attack that killed two of his comrades, the 23-year-old Canadian soldier was lying in a hospital bed with severe traumatic injuries, a broken leg—and a startling salary. Officials wanted to pay the soldier his “danger pay,” a \$2,300 monthly bonus that all troops earn while serving in Afghanistan. Under fire from the press, Gen. Rick Hillier, who died of the defense staff, later promised that no soldier will be denied pay if they “take a bullet for Canada.”

Good news

The power of faith

The collective response of the Amish community in the days following the devastating shooting deaths of five girls in a Nickel Mines, Pa., schoolhouse was as inspiring as it was unexpected. Rather than reacting with anger, Amish community leaders appealed to friends and neighbors for kindness and empathy. Dozens of the faithful attended the funeral of the killer—Charles Roberts, a 34-year-old milk truck driver who shot himself after terrorizing the students. Some paid a visit to Roberts’ widow to offer their sympathies and welcome her at one of the funerals. Amish leaders also encouraged donations to help the Roberts family cope financially. With its overwhelming generosity at a time of profound grief, the community inspired a powerful lesson about faith and forgiveness.

Bad news

Truth silenced

Moscow journalist Anna Politkovskaya made a career of chronicling abuses by Russian troops in Chechnya—drawing the wrath of the Kremlin with each expose. On Saturday, she was assassinated. A dogged investigative reporter, Politkovskaya was threatened, imprisoned and even poisoned for her hard-nosed coverage of President Vladimir Putin’s regime. Her funeral, attended by hundreds of mourners, was a shocking reminder of just how dangerous it has become for Rus-

Toxic roughage

Said in a court attack. Then it was news on much, declared unsafe to eat last month by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency after American grocers were found to be tainted with a potentially lethal strain of E. coli. Then, California’s famed Win. Bolthouse Farms recalled three brands of carrot juice—Bolthouse Farms, Earthbound Farms, and President’s Choice Organic—which it says may contain a hazardous toxin. Two Canadians are hospitalized after drinking spoiled carrot juice and four others in the U.S. are seriously ill. On Sunday, lettuce was bloodbath when a major U.S. vegetable distributor revealed its baby heads let tuce, after learning that water used to irrigate its fields may also have been contaminated with E. coli bacteria.

All is right again

It was a good week for celebrity reconciliations. First, Paris Hilton

FACE OF THE WEEK



A TIM POTTER IN HUNTERS, BULLIES, SHOOTS UPON LEAVING A CO-WORKER’S OFFICE. Violence between mine is left at least four dead

and ex-best friend Nicole Richie put their long feud aside for a higher purpose: season five of their reality TV series *The Simple Life*. According to *People*, the pair are set to work as camp counselors. Meanwhile, a pregnant Yeri Igglefing and her mother, Candice, appear to have overcome a rough patch in their relationship. Upon being asked about the prospect of becoming a grand mother, Candice told reporters she was “thrilled and excited.” For Tim, a larger out of recently deceased dad Aaron Spelling’s estate may be in the cards after all.

slain journalists to go digging for the truth.

Iran undeterred

Neither high-level meetings with a world powers nor the universal outrage over North Korea’s nuclear test this week was enough to shake Iran’s determination to pursue its nuclear program. “With steady heart and full confidence we go ahead,” Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the supreme leader of Iran, said Tuesday. The UN Security Council deadline of Aug. 31 is starting to ring a little hollow.

Nor a borrower be

There was much before in Ottawa last week with news that the fed and government is finally taking action to reign in the payday loan industry—widely criticized for charging exorbitant interest rates. But on closer examination, the long-awaited crackdown is pretty much a dud. Ottawa simply granted an exemption from central and credit lines on interest rates on provinces that are prepared to regulate the industry. Canadian law prohibits lenders from charging more than 60 per cent interest annually, but payday lenders routinely add huge fees that lead to crushing debts. A few provisions have already indicated their intent to impose new regulations that would stamp out the most serious abuses. But the most of the country’s banks as it’s shady business is going to carry on for the time being. That sounds a lot like passing the buck. **B**

A SINGLE SHOT CAN END THE WAR

FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS

by CLINT EASTWOOD



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IN THEATRES OCTOBER 20



PARIS FASHION WEEK

The event offered something old-schmoo models—as Franca ignored Spain's ban on stoneware retailers. And there was sexual hijinx, as China was reported for the first time by Julien designer Franck Ribault, who opened the eight-day celebration of spring/summer wear.

1. Her makeup and cell time backstage at the Christian Dior show
2. Guo's ready-to-wear collection featured Rorschach-like motifs
3. Jean-Paul Gaultier celebrated his 50th anniversary in fashion with a retrospective of gaffs: Keith Leane and Babbie
4. Wearing coordinated white and black outfits everywhere they went: Franck Ribault's backdoor and Karl Lagerfeld were front-row staples
5. Designer down as Yves Saint Laurent collapsed in the street shortly after his label's runway show. He suffered strokes from the fall
6. A Karl Lagerfeld model also had trouble staying upright
7. Valentino publisher Carlos Souza and Janet Jackson hit the floor
8. Dancers joined class to Viktor and Rolf's ready-to-wear collection



MITCHEL RAPHAEL ON GODFREY AND THE PAGES AND HARPER'S FOCUS ON THE PHOTO



LIBERAL MP Peter Heller and Peter Hobbie

SCRATCHING THEIR HEAD & SHOULDERS

The Canadian Conservative, Tory and Progressive Association's annual reception on the MHI is a must go event. Why? The consensus gift bags. The PMO was about last week with staff preparing cabinet members to attend and pick one up. Some senators who could not make the event sent their assistants. Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Monica Solberg was there, as was MP Jason Kenney, who quipped, "I see more Liberals here than at Harold Ramo's speech." At least two Bloc MPs took two bags each. "one for my wife" declared the openly gay Rishi Mehta. The Speaker, Peter Milliken, was impressed by the "40 hour protection" offered by the A&S as anti-protesters, one of the items on the gift bag. Bloc MP Nicole Desjardins appreciated Clairol's hair solutions. "My grandson is 13," she noted. Capital Disney is what they're playing with plans to do with his son Sally Hansen's Diamond Strength and color, but Conservative MP Helene Guay says she yearns to give her bag to a woman's shelter in her St. John's riding. Despite all the excitement, the one woman grumbling that the bags were not as good as in previous years is a big disappointment was that no MAC makeup was included. The CCFA used the event to highlight their new prize "Look Good... Feel Better" program.

which since 1992 has been helping women with cancer improve their appearance through cosmetics and hair alterations. The CCFA is also trying to get Ottawa to clarify its definition for drugs, cosmetics and natural health products, since some items appear in all three categories, creating bureaucratic nightmares and leaving many in the industry

stumped. David Reid, former head of the conservative Christian group Focus on the Family, as the new chief of staff to Environment Minister Russ Ambrose, Stephen Harper was preoccupied with other pressing matters. He was sending it to a photo of himself. As one person he never blames on the side to avoid wrangling, it's all in the details

had for lessons and/or wraps his arms around himself in a quick shower to indicate sex. Each year, the new pages in the House have to learn his very particular ng rish on the job. (It's not part of their work, which involves learning the faces of each of every MP) Godfrey has yet to figure out a signal for spilling water, but he says he's working on it.



MP JOHN GODFREY demonstrates his secret signals. The giant, the square and the cheer

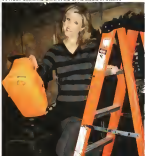
standing their heads. Perhaps that is why the lobby group included a photo of Head & Shoulders shampoo in the gift bags.

WHY'S GODFREY JUGGING HIMSELF?

When MPs in the House want water, most do the universal C shape with their hand and shake it to indicate a glass. And a glass of water is what they get. Unless you're Toronto Liberal MP John Godfrey and have a few extra moves. Godfrey signals his

STEPHEN HARPER DOESN'T WASTE TIME
Last week at Question Period, while the Liberals were attacking the Tories over the appoint-

TV HOST Catherine Clark at the CPAC studio in Ottawa



TORY MEMBERSHIP EVAPORATES

When Joe Clark's daughter, Catherine Clark, hosted Talk Canada on Rogers cable, she had to deliver on reality. Now that she has her own show on every-one's favourite pay-per-view channel, CPAC, she has some one to do her makeup for her. She should've selected stars for her new show, Alexandra Schell, while she's doing the call-in talk show, which is called Sunday Sound Off on Sundays at 11 a.m. ET. She often loses Alexandra with her grandparents, Joe Clark and Marlene Miller-Joe Clark files to put Alexandra on Maddie, Catherine's German shepherd. Catherine Clark currently doesn't belong to any political party. She was, of course, a member of the PC party several years ago, but as things morphed on the political stage, her membership simply "went away" (that one day was gone). ■

ON THE WEB: For more Ottawa outtakes, visit Mitchel Raphael's blog at www.mitchelraphael.com

PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHEL RAPHAEL

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One way Harper needs to be more American



PAUL WELLS

The week we're going to urge the Harper government to behave more like Americans. Might as well pass with the grain.

This year the United States sweeps the science categories in the Nobel Prizes—chemistry, physics, medicine—for the first time since 1961. (An American, Richard Phillips, later took the economics Nobel. You'll know for sure by the time you read this, but one presumes the laureates prize will break the U.S. streak, unless there are a lot of Dave Delia fans on the jury.)

Roger Kornberg of Stanford University won the chemistry prize for studying RNA transcription, the process by which the information in the human genome is expressed in cells. Kornberg's work builds on the pioneering DNA research of his dad, Arthur, who won the Nobel for medicine in 1959.

Kornberg's Stanford colleague Andrew Fire showed this year's medicine prize with Craig Mello of the University of Massachusetts for work on RNA interference, which silences troublesome genes. And the physics prize went to John Mather of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and George Smoot of the Berkeley Lab, who snipped the tiny temperature variations left over from the big bang.

I've belaboured these inspirational affirmations—and Kornberg's bloodline—to emphasize a point all five laureates learned to make as soon as their news stories appeared: That's the overwhelming importance of U.S. federal aid dollars to their work, a bipartisan policy pillar of half a century's standing.

Mather has been a federal government employee since before he was born. The Department of Energy's office of science sits in the Berkeley Lab, where Smoot works. Mello's medical school training more than 100 years ago led to a career research fellowship—80 per cent of his personal government stipend. The National Institutes of Health has paid \$154.4

million over the years to support Kornberg's awards, and US\$6 (million to Fire and Mello).

So I'm always baffled when, after one of my columns on the importance of aggressive federal support for science and technology in Canada, I get a flurry of e-mails from readers who argue that it's socialism, or bad federalism, or a waste of money for the feds to be in the science game. "Leave it to the market," the refrain goes. "The way the Americans do it."

Well, first of all, the Americans don't. Alan Bernstein told me the other day. "The American investment way means that any other country on science. And way more per capita than any other country."

Bernstein is the president of the Canadian Institute of Health Research, a keynote of

science. Since 2001, the government in federal science funding has shriveled. Other countries continue their transformation into knowledge economies. The United States, despite President Bush's ambivalence about the worth of science, maintains its dominance.

But there's work left to do. Despite Goldenberg's undeniably good, the research network the Clinton government left behind is out of balance. The growing coalition, like CIBR and the National Science Foundation Research Council, don't have sufficient budgets to pay for research at all the fancy new labs with the eager new researchers. Success rates for CIBR grant applications have been falling—which means good, deserving science isn't getting done.



Never mind Bush's ambivalence, the U.S. invests more in science than any other nation

Canada's research effort since it was founded in 1800. But compared to the Americans, Bernstein has done his work at bargain rates. It's an interestingly apples pie comparison, but Bernstein figures the CIBR has less than one third the budget of its rough U.S. equivalent, the NIH—even if you take population differences into account.

That's the story of Canadian science. The Clinton government turned the corner on a generation of deficit spending in 1997 and, over the next five budgets, radically increased the federal contribution to science infrastructure, salaries for researchers, and grants for ongoing research projects. It's all in Goldenberg's new memoir, *The Way It Works*.

But that formidable investment managed only to get Canada back on the highly competitive global game for the world's best research

How long will the research keep?

Stephen Harper's government has painted a new look at science and technology in the past budget. It has commissioned studies and consulted with stakeholders. But it's very to sell when this government is preoccupied about something (Afghanistan) and when it isn't. When George W. Bush launches an "American Competitiveness Initiative," it's a plan to double federal spending on the physical sciences in 10 years. But when President Mikhail Jim Flaherty gave a speech on competitiveness in November, Dec. 1, last month, he mentioned research only once, in passing. That's the problem with this Harper crew. They're not American enough. W

ON THE WEB: For more Paul Wells, visit his blog at www.macleans.ca/colists/colists.

SO MUCH FOR THE SO-CON AGENDA

Set to lose on same-sex and the gun registry, the Tories are moving on

BY JOHN GEDDES • They are the typical battles for lightning a fire under Canadian right-of-centre activists: gay marriage and the gun registry. Stephen Harper has promised to push both of them this fall, but now his government doesn't look all that enthusiastic on either front. A vote on whether to open the same-sex marriage debate—which he promised in last winter's election campaign—was widely expected by this month, but has been delayed in the face of its likely defeat in the House. No date has been set for the vote. There's also no hint of haste for debating the government's bill to scrap the

registry for shotguns and rifles. The legislation was introduced last spring by Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day, with the Tory minority hoping to pass it this fall by combining their votes with those of several Liberal, NDP and Bloc Québécois MPs. But in the wake of the Dawson College shootings last month in Montreal, opposition stiffened, and the bill now looks likely to be shelved when Day's office wouldn't say when the government might next exposing it to a vote.

The prospect of back-to-back battles on such high-profile issues would normally signal a government bracing for serious damage. But some Tory strategists suspect Harper is now positioning himself to outlast the party—even turn those setbacks to his advantage. One approach could be to portray losing the vote in the House as inevitable for a minority,

motivating anti-gay-marriage social conservatives and anti-gun-registry rural residents to work harder in the next election to swing Harper's majority. After all, so-called swing voters don't have another party to vote their weight behind. Nick Stagno, president of the polling firm 888 Research, told Harper should vote eagerly taking these two issues to the floor of the House sufficient to consolidate his standing among voters who care most about them. If they fail, he should cut his losses. "The best option is to stand up and say, 'I accept the will of Parliament,'" Stagno said, "and then move on."

Judging from the themes they stress in media interviews, some Conservative strategists already have. Auked about the hot-button issues, they tend to try shifting attention to policies that might appeal more to swing voters. Instead of talking about dismantling the long-gun registry, they cast their legislation to impose tougher controls for gun crime. Rather than dwelling on fighting gay marriage, the bill says its own presence to parliament is a job a year for every 100 people in Canada—a less controversial sign of support for the traditional family.

There are also signals, however, that some powerful figures inside the government want to fight, not just change the subject. Justice Minister Vito Truini has reportedly drafted a so-called *Definition of Religion* act, which would be tabled if the motion to scrap the same-sex marriage debate is defeated. The act would assert the right of religious people to criticize gay marriage and ensure that a person who performs civil ceremonies couldn't be compelled to marry a same-sex couple.

Critics say these rights are already fully protected. Stagno argues that prolonging the debate with such a bill would be a gift to the opposition parties in the next election. "It would drag it out and suggest the Conservatives are throwing their full force behind it," he said. "Harper just to show the door on this. He's got to think about what he's going to say in the next election when somebody asks, 'Will you open these issues again if there is a Conservative majority?'" A spokesman for Truini said no decision has been made about whether or not to introduce any follow-up legislation after the previous debate and vote on revisiting same-sex marriage. Yet by floating the concept of a new law to defend religious opposition to gay marriage, the government has staked expectations among conservative activists. Dave Quirk, executive director of the Institute of Marriage and Family Canada, an Ottawa think tank opposed to same-sex marriage, said faith-based groups want their



STOCKWELL DAY'S move to scrap the gun registry was undone by the Dawson tragedy

rights to keep fighting for the traditional definition of marriage spelled out in law. "It's important for the government to define where the protection really is," Quirk said.

Trying to turn back the clock on same-sex marriage has always looked more like a symbolic stance for the Tories than one with a strong chance of success. After a series of court decisions effectively legitimized gay marriage, a law in line with those rulings was passed last year in the House by then prime minister Paul Martin's minority government by a margin of 238 to 133 in a free vote. The balance among MPs on the issue doesn't seem to have been changed much by the Jan. 25 election. Advocates of gay marriage held Mackenzie's chair during NDP voting times from when Harper's proposed motion to reopen that debate would be defeated this fall by a similar margin, perhaps 35 to 30 votes

But the vote to scrap the long-gun registry looked winnable for the Tories—and the Dawson College shootings. After that, Liberal leaders Bill Graham announced he would exempt Liberal MPs, some on the record as opponents of the registry, to stand with their party to preserve it—a so-called whipped vote. Combined with overwhelming NDP and Bloc Québécois opposition to eliminating the registry, the tougher line by the Liberals risks the Tory bill look nearly impossible to pass.

Like the same-sex issue, the tricky strategic problem for the Tories could be how to cope with the aftermath of losing a vote on the gun registry. When Day called his bill to eliminate the registry for rifles and shotguns last spring, he also introduced an amnesty that ensured certain gun owners from registering unregistered guns until May 31, 2007. The amnesty is complicated. For instance, it doesn't cover gun owners whose home isn't a license to own firearms, or whose license expired before January 2004. (In late August, the Canadian Firearms Centre had to issue a special bulletin, explaining how to amend weapons, to police—more than three months after Day announced it.) Now, after taking that extraordinary step of allowing many gun owners to ignore

the law while they get about reviving it, the Tories now look unlikely to succeed in killing it after all. What will happen to the amnesty if the House reaffirms the registry? "Not only is the amnesty questionable as a policy," said Montreal MP Irwin Cotler, the Liberal critic for public safety, "it's incongruous of Parliament."

Clearly, pressure to end the amnesty and return the Canada Firearms Centre to business as usual will be immense if Day's bill is defeated. Harper was emphatic even after the Dawson College shootings that he would not back down on trying to scrap the registry, but it is hard to see the case for him spending political capital to try to keep the issue alive beyond a first attempt. Supporters for doing away with the registry, which became a scandal when the cost of testing it was ballooned to more than its bill was, has never been overwhelming. An Environics poll conducted around the time of the last election found that 49 per cent of Canadians thought the Conservatives should eliminate the long-gun registry. But that pales compared to the 88 per cent who favored increasing the mandatory minimum sentences for gun crimes—a step already taken in legislation waiting to be passed by the House. "It's pretty clear that we've got an active criminal justice agenda," said Dawson spokesman Mike Shoreline, stressing that the

gun registry is hardly the minister's sole preoccupation. "About 40 per cent of the bills already before the House are justice bills."

Of course, those bills, and most other bits of government business, don't have the status of taking on gun control or gay marriage. But then Harper has never advocated a go-for-broke approach on the issues that matter most to many of his most fervent backers. And these are his allies, too, although as an economist by training he is often mistakenly thought to be more interested in lower taxes and other tenets of economic conservatism. Back in 2003, during the time from politics when he was president of the National Citizens Coalition, he said in a speech that, for conservatism, "the defining issue has been defining lower economic costs to social values."

But he also urged true believers to learn patience. "The explicitly stated conviction of social conservatives makes it difficult for many to accept the incremental approach," Harper said. "Yet, in democratic politics, any other approach will certainly fail." This fall, the willingness of Conservatives to take incremental gun where they can find them, and make pay setbacks on emotional issues when they can't be avoided, is about to be put to the test. ■

THE LONG-GUN AMNESTY IS SO COMPLICATED, A BULLETIN WAS SENT TO EXPLAIN IT—TO THE POLICE



DAY MADEBLADE opponents want Vito Truini to defend their right to criticize



HARPER favours an incremental approach

PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES M. FOSTER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE



My current research focuses on auroras or Northern lights. Auroras generate a magnetic field that can affect power grids and all types of communications – on land and in space. By studying auroras it is our hope that we can start to predict when auroras will explode, and as such we can reduce the potential for trouble with satellites and other devices.

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NATIONAL



REBEL VOLUNTEERS: A mission would get headed up in the larger war against al-Qaida.

**Intervening in Darfur
would not be a simple
matter of peacekeeping**

BY SEAN M. MALONEY • A subcommittee's report on Canada's involvement in Afghanistan this year is the argument the country should return to its alleged peacekeeping roots, pull out of Kandahar and intervene in the Darfur region of Sudan to halt a genocide that's been

in progress for years. Indeed, the Darfur saga has produced new high-profile champions for intervention, this time led by actor George Clooney. Though we have avoided the dreaded "CNN Effect" that drew us all into the Sudan debate, vigilance of it remains to be activated by emotion unchecked with reason. And Sudan is an unreasonable place.

Even discounting the fact that such an intervention would not be "jobs-creating," the complexity of such an enterprise has been woefully underestimated by those who demand it. Durfar, many forget, belongs to Sudan. It is not a remote, isolated statelet; it is the size of France. Durfar cannot be taken out of the compass of Sudan or out of the problems that exist, and have existed for some time, in the region.

Many forget that Sudan was home of the 19th century last Linder prototype, Mahamud Ahmad, better known as the Mahdi. Mahdist Islamic extremists had to be put down by British forces in 1898, which decried the Mahdist dream of a new pan Arab caliphate. Sudan was an artificial creation of the 19th century, and in the end may subvert the first link between Arab-Islam and black Africa. High school geography says

derate look at the continent of Africa in no less than 100 pages straight across the Red Sea from Sudan. Since independence in 1960 Sudan has been wracked with violence. In 1985, the government attempted to implement hardline Islamic law and was met with violence from the non-Islamic portions of the country, a conflict that Africa analyst Kormen Adar argues "has culminated in the loss of millions of lives, the exodus of millions of refugees, and widespread famine."

This was long, long before Darfur was a issue. It is important to understand, as long-time Africa-observer Alex de Waal explains

BIN LADEN DECLARED ANY ACTION IN DARFUR WOULD BE PART OF THE 'ZIONIST-CRUSADER' WAR. THEN THERE'S IRAN TO WORRY ABOUT.

that "the moral, political, and economic logic of the war as interpreted in Khartoum created a space where such neo-gammas and new practices could flourish." Gaidi's attempt at putting a Band-Aid on this gaping wound involved the deployment in 1993 of a C-130 transport aircraft to assist the UN-supported Operation Lifeline Sudan, a relief mission which, it turned out, was used by the Sudanese government to deny food to those not in line with Khartoum's demands. The war continued on all fronts and the Sudanese continued.

All Qaeda slipped onto this screen by 1993. Attracted by the Islamic credentials of the al-Saddar government, al-Qaeda quickly infiltrated Sudan and developed the same political Islamism that it would develop in 1996 with the Taliban in Afghanistan. The

included construction and road-building projects, plus maintenance aid for Muslims only. Former U.S. ambassador Don Peterson noted that "bin Laden's support for blatant extremists' mosque organizations paralleled the clandestine support the Saudis were providing." This included training camps that supported insurgent operations against the UN-led effort in Somalia, which bin Laden in turn used to manipulate the Sudanese government, claiming Sudan was next for intervention. That was in 1995.

In 2006, 10 years after al-Qaeda relocated to Afghanistan from Sudan, bin Laden declared that any operations in Darfur would constitute part of the "Zionist-Crossair war." "I call on my brothers and their supporters, especially in Sudan and the Arab peninsula, to prepare for long war against the Crossair planes in western Sudan. Our goal is not defending the Khartoum government but to defend Islam, its land and

There are other players too, of an Iranian variety. Khamenei's courtier, Ayatollah Jafar paid off. The Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps' "Qods" special operations unit established some training camps in Iraq. Iran's nuclear aspirations, in it possible that Tehran might wish to extend an "atomic umbrella" to deter intervention. Iran has also aimed the Saddam-era force Indeed, in a bizarre twist, a Hamas fight With investigation concluded that in the West, pilots from Iraq have combat missions against the Sudan People's Liberation Army (which, incidentally, has been supported by humanitarian relief efforts and thus subject to government sanction). And the Iraqi air force has been overextended for planes that would be right out of Baghdad's very own inventory.

planes. Mike Mendelsohn would be proud to advocate for interventionists. But he needs to be sure that the war against al Qaeda is also supported at the complex sites like Guantanamo from Dykstra and other locations. Americans led forces from Operation Enduring Freedom are involved in operations designed to hunt down al Qaeda cells throughout the region. They already demonstrated their reach when Predator aircraft were used to kill al Qaeda leaders in Yemen in 2002. To suggest that Sudan is somehow off limits to covert and special operations activity would be naive. It will be impossible to determine any intervention in Dykstra from the larger war against al Qaeda and other proponents of Islamic extremism. There will be examples.

And no one will be able to say Canada's war is over. ■

THE NEW WORLD ORDER

The Muslim world has youth, numbers and global ambitions. The West is growing old and enfeebled, and more and more lacks the will to rebuff those who would supplant it. It's the end of the world as we've known it. An excerpt from 'America Alone'.

BY MARK STEYN

Sept. 11, 2001, was not "the day everything changed," but the day that revealed how much had already changed. On Sept. 30, how many Americans had the Council of American Islamic Relations or the Muslim Council of Britain in their Rolodexes? If you'd read that whether something does or does not cause offense to Muslims would be the early 21st century's prison pal (jokunni) dynamic in Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands, Belgium, France and the United Kingdom, every folks would have thought you were crazy. Not that Tuesday morning the top of the iceberg bobbed up and it applied the Twin Towers.

Then about the seven nights below the surface—the larger forces at play in the developed world that have left Europe too inflexible to move, its reconstruction too inflexible to move, its culture too inflexible to move, its politics too inflexible to move, its economy too inflexible to move, its society too inflexible to move, its values too inflexible to move, its laws too inflexible to move, its institutions too inflexible to move, its future too inflexible to move.

Let's start with demography, because everything does.



PEOPLE POWER

Italy's school has 200 girls and you're playing a school with 2,000 pupils, it doesn't mean your baseball color is definitely going to lose but it certainly gives the other fellows a big starting advantage. Likewise, if you want to launch a new nation, it's not very likely if you've only got

seven millionists. And they're all over 80. But, if you've got two million and seven millionists and they're all under 10 you're in business.

For example, I wonder how many pontificators on the "Middle East peace process" ever ran this number:

The median age in the Gaza Strip is 15.8 years. Once you know that, all the rest is details. If you were a "moderate Palestinian" leader, would you want to try to persuade a nation—or people nation—of unemployed poorly educated teenage boys raised in a UN supervised European-funded death risk to no war?

Like wise, the infant future of Europe, Canada, Japan and Russia is that they're running out of babies. What's happening in the developed world is one of the fastest demographic revolutions in history most of all have seen a post-industrial world where ethnic concentration is the highest and the most diverse—Italy's school has 200 girls and you're playing a school with 2,000 pupils, it doesn't mean your baseball color is definitely going to lose but it certainly gives the other fellows a big starting advantage. Likewise, if you want to launch a new nation, it's not very likely if you've only got

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New Zealand a little below. Hollywood would be making My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding and they would have to make only child marriages into a big business in New Zealand family where the spouse actually has a sibling.

As I say, this isn't a prediction: it's happening now. There's no race to monopolize, and if you do get a little heady, but, not for fun, he's gone. By 2050, 60 per cent of Italians will have no brothers, no sisters, no cousins, no aunts, no uncles. The big Italian family, with papa pouring the vino and mamma spooning out the minestrone and endless table of grandparents and aunts and nephews, will be gone, no more, dead as the dinosaurs. As Noel Coward once remarked in another context, "Fossils, fossils, fossils everywhere." By mid-century, Italians will have no choice in the matter.

Experts talk about root causes, but demography is the most basic root of all. A people that won't multiply can't go forth or go anywhere. Those who do will shape the age we live in.



WELFARE AND WARFARE

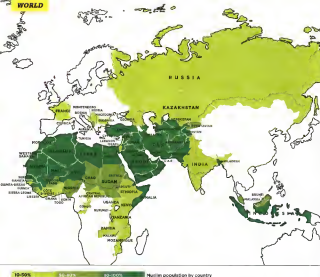
Demographic decline and the sustainability of the social democratic state are closely related. In Africa, political elites spent about the federal deficit like no one else. But it's piling up debt on debt and grand children will have to pay off. But in Europe the smallfolk's conditions are in even worse shape: there are no kids or grandkids to stick it to.

You might remember in the 1980s: Age + Welfare = Disaster for you, Youth + War = Disaster for whoever gets in your way.

By "will," I mean the metaphorical sense of "will," Africa, to take another example, has plenty of young people, but it's not rich with AIDS and, for the most part, Africans don't think of themselves as Africans, as we see in Rwanda, their primary identity is tribal, and most tribes have no global ambitions. Japan, however, has serious global ambitions, and it forces the pencil, core area of most of its advances—in the Middle East, South Asia and elsewhere.

Islam has youth and will, Europe has age and welfare.

We are witnessing the end of the late 20th-century progressive welfare democracy. Its



STRENGTH IN NUMBERS While the Middle East remains the sacred home of Islam, the religion's demographic heartland has shifted to Africa and Southeast Asia. These days, only 18 per cent of Muslims live in the Arab world, compared to 23 per cent in Africa and 30 per cent in Pakistan, India and Bangladesh. Emigration to developed countries has accelerated the scattering effect: France is the first country in western Europe to show an Islamic population of 10 per cent. Roughly three per cent of Canada's population is Muslim.

ISLAM'S RAPID RISE

Muslim power is at a level not seen in 300 years, and it's spreading

"Fight the infidels!" might make a seductive battle cry, but a glance at the Islamic world today suggests a level of worldwide strength Muslims had known in the last 17th century. That was the zenith of the great Islamic empires—Ottomans and Mughals—whose power stretched from southern India to the western border of the African continent. The new power base is more varied and complex, occurring in a dozen or so

of the Muslim state. At one extreme is theocratic Iran, at the other are comparatively tolerant regimes like Chad, whose other religions are permitted and the worst forms of intolerance is subtle discrimination.

Still, it is a stunning resurgence for a religion whose heyday had shrunk to a handful of countries by the end of the First World War, but even under the secular, colonial leadership that followed, populations in former Islamic territories held fast to their faith, reports say. Then, with the end of the Second World War and the decline of imperialism, they began to assert their right, setting loose forces that are now transforming global politics.

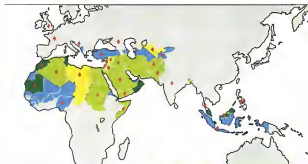
At last count, fully 48 of the 193 UN member countries had Muslim majorities, some 21 of which had declared Islam their official religion. Most of the latter practice some form of sharia law and forbid conversion to other faiths.

To be sure, we are hardly on the brink of a global holy war, or even the "dash of civilizations" portended by the American scholar Samuel Huntington in the early 1990s. But the presence of violent extremists—born al Qaeda in Iraq to Abu Sayyaf in the Philippines to assorted fanatics in Britain-affiliated Muslim communities around the world. The headline adherents are true globalists, using information technology to promote a creed that accommodates no faith, law or power but their own. **BY CHARLIE GILLIE**

ILLUSTRATIONS BY JARED KIMBLEMAN



WAX AND WANE The end of the First World War marked a low point of sorts for Islamic power as Western allies seized the broken parts of the Ottoman Empire for economic and strategic purposes. The Islamic states that remained independent punter accused Persia, Afghanistan, Hajj (Arabia) and a secular Turkey. It was a far cry from the vast dominions commanded by Ottomans and Mughals in the late 17th century—a stark white shape at that time bore a striking resemblance to today's sphere of Muslim influence.



Muslim population 50% or more in 10 countries

Islam is state religion; generally tolerant government and culture

Islam is state religion; reports of discrimination against religious minorities

Secular government; predominantly Muslim pop.; reports of religious discrimination

Violent Islamic extremist groups are active

MUSLIMS AND STATE Some predominate Muslim countries have secular governments, yet routinely enrage religious minorities to intolerance. Just spring, for example, Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi unleashed a torrent of hatred toward non-Muslims in a speech broadcast by al-Jazeera, even though his country officially permits other faiths. By the same token, certain officially Islamic countries welcome non-Muslims, provided they don't proselytize among the locals. Malaysia's constitution, for instance, identifies Islam as the state religion while enshrining freedom of faith. Just don't try converting Muslims. Nothing, it is worth noting, governs extremist jihadists, the violent Islamists and fundamentalist insurgents turn up throughout the Muslim world—and increasingly, the non-Muslim one.

BOMBS AWAY!

Kim goes nuclear but angers his ally, China. What will Beijing do?

BY LARA CHANKEE • When North Korea announced Monday that it had carried out its first successful test of a nuclear device, the regime not only alarmed its enemies, but also being one of its few friends out to dry. Until now, China had been effectively keeping Pyongyang's Jong Il virtual dictatorship on life support by supplying more oil (as far) and feeding a good share of its impoverished population. Beijing also credits Security Council veto to beat back American attempts to sanction Pyongyang for long range missile tests in July. "After all the support they've given them, after all the effort China has made to resolve this diplomatically, North Korea, in testing this device, has in effect put their thumb in [China's] eye," remarked U.S. ambassador to the UN John Bolton. "The nuclear test will undoubtedly exert a major impact on our relations," said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao, with a diplomatically understated undertone. China's UN ambassador Wang Guangmei was more blunt, calling for "aggressive actions" against Pyongyang. But Wang added that the punishment must be "appropriate"—in whatever Beijing interprets properly will effectively test the resolve on what the rest of the world quibbles about the nuclear threat.

That is, of course, assuming there is no other threat. The relative weakness of the explosion reported by seismic stations in several countries raised the possibility that it could be the result of conventional explosives, or that the device had malfunctioned or "blinded." But while scientists pressed their microscopes, world leaders moved on, mulling how Pyongyang was tilting the truth. South Korea suspended aid to Pyongyang to blood vessels in the North and debated the fate of the "sunshine policy" of economic engagement that earned them South Korea's president Kim Dae-jung the Nobel Peace Prize in 2000.

The Bush administration issued an order



ECONOMIC SANCTIONS might end the Dear Leader's supply of Hennessy cognac

moment of international unity to present a hardline resolution to the Security Council, calling for economic sanctions and a stop-and-search regime that would allow the seizure of North Korean vessels. The U.S. resolution

'NORTH KOREA, IN TESTING THIS DEVICE, HAS IN EFFECT PUT THEIR THUMB IN CHINA'S EYE'

also calls for a weapons embargo, a freeze on assets associated with Kim's weapons program, and a ban on trade in luxury goods such as the Dear Leader's beloved Hennessy cognac. Critics feared that intrusive search searches would create opportunities for violent confrontation. But supporters said such measures are necessary to shut down the regime's lucrative trafficking in opium and counterfeit pharmaceuticals and currency.

Washington's resolution was aimed at ridding a page out of North Korea's playbook attempting to impoverish a regime it hopes that it collapses. But a North Korea collapse is a goal China doesn't share. On the contrary, if Kim's regime implodes, many of his 25 million countrymen would come streaming across China's border, destabilizing the country and threatening its economy. But China hardly wants to be seen doing a bad deed and its bomb "China is a head, there

are no good options for," says an proliferation expert Michael Linn of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York City.

South Korea is also fearful of collapse in the North. For one thing, it does not want the risk of overnight having to integrate millions of impoverished refugees. The mere threat of such instability can harm investment in its economy. But then there is the very real threat of Kim's million-man army and conventional weapons pointed south. Although Seoul may want to punish Kim in the short term and demands him from further development his nuclear program, in the long run South Korea may not see a way around an engagement with the North. Both Koreas have declared peaceful reunification in their eventual goal. South Korea's aim, Linn says, "is to reform and open up North Korea, much like China has been opened up. They are not looking for a change in ideology, but a change in behavior."

Both Beijing and Seoul quickly rejected a military response, although George W. Bush's administration has not ruled out such an option. Still, it's hard to see the President ordering strikes on North Korea—given that Kim could demonstrate Seoul with conventional weapons. "We keep the military option on the table because North Korea needs to know that, but President Bush has been very clear he wants

this resolved peacefully and diplomatically," Bolton said. A North Korean news agency quoted an unnamed official saying that whether Pyongyang ever employs a nuclear device depends "on how the U.S. will act." But thanks to security treaties, any move by Kim against South Korea or Japan would immediately involve the U.S., bringing with it unacceptable costs. "Kim Jong Il and his regime are not suicidal. Taking significant military action against South Korea and Japan would risk the destruction of its country," says David Strick, who served as the State Department's Korea director from 2000 to 2004.

The North Korean test also sparked fears of an Asian arms race, but Japan's new and nationalistic Prime Minister Koizumi has put many at ease when he issued his parliament that "possession of nuclear arms is not an option at all for our country." The first renewal calls in Washington for acceleration of the missile defense program. "We intend to destroy advanced missiles. On October, Senator Colin Kelly, who chairs a committee that recommended that Canada join that enterprise, said: "It's what missile defense is all about." He added, "A lot of people are talking about it. It's not a near-term solution because there is not a consensus in Canada yet."

Why did Kim take this risk? No one can say for sure what motivated the 65-year-old ex-military, who opposed even to the threat of the country even to be his habitus

SOUTH KOREA IS FEARFUL OF HAVING TO INTEGRATE MILLIONS OF IMPOVERISHED BRETHREN



WARREN CALLED FOR 'positive action'

with a position for Mr. Garvey files that he once had a South Korean (Warner) kid rapped to create a film and assist in the North. In a sense it was just a matter of time. North Korea has been seeking nuclear technology since the 1970s, and was believed to be capable of developing a weapon since at least the 1990s. In the wake of July's failed missile

test, the regime may have wanted to balance its image before its own people and its neighbors in the South. "These are two states competing for the hearts and minds of the Korean people, and there is a competition for dominance and discussing the terms of an eventual ceasefire," says Strick, now an adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies in Washington. Kim may also have wanted a bargaining chip in talks with Korean countries. Mean while, though, having the bomb is an insurance policy, the U.S. invasion of Iraq may have suggested to Kim that membership in Bush's axis of evil is no disadvantage if you have a nuclear deterrent.

Can South Korean (Warner) and others of the need for a tough approach? Strick says no—at least not for very long. "It will probably get a fairly strong initial resolution, but at some point we will reach a limit on what the other countries are willing to do. The countries surrounding North Korea will not be united—and North Korea will get a pass."

ON THE WEB: For more on this story, visit www.foxnews.com/06/09/09nkr

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MELINDA (left) stands to become the first female Speaker, Reynolds is in hot water

photographs and do things that could limit the kinds of lives he helped pass on as chair of the House caucus on mining and employed children. Could the perversions of their flesh deliver voters to the Democrats? Probably—when first looked like a one-crop, one-story was soon leading to calls for the hands of House Speaker Dennis Hastert, who had allegedly known about concerns over Foley's behavior but failed to act, and of Tim Reynolds, chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, who allegedly urged Foley to run for re-election despite knowing of concerns.

While Foley had an on-again alcohol rehab in Florida, GOP operatives and House Hastert out by leaking polls suggesting the party could lose majority in 50 years if he stayed. Poll after poll is showing the GOP in trouble. An Ipsos poll showed that half of likely voters said the Foley scandal will be "extremely important" to their choice. A Gallup poll taken over the weekend showed Democrats with double the lead. Republicans had a month before they secured control of Congress in 1994—and it's the Democrats' largest advantage among registered voters since 1978. While many races will still turn on local issues, most analysts assume that the Foley affair will lessen the turnout among the crucial Republican constituency of social and religious conservatives.

(The presumption is that fiscal conservatives have already decided to stay home, voting into their scratch about record budget deficits and pork spending.) Republicans are trying to rally the base, in part by using Foley in TV ads suggesting that if God-fearing folks stay home and no one, she'll punish the country right off the left coast.

But such a scenario is mostly scare mongering on the right. (Foley may represent San Francisco, but she's no doggy baggie.) The daughter of a former mayor of Philly, Sabatino, the



GOP POLLS HAVE BEEN LEAKING, SHOWING THAT AS MANY AS 50 HOUSE SEATS ARE IN DANGER BECAUSE OF THE FOLEY SCANDAL

is by most estimations a hard-headed pol "is the personally very liberal." Absolutely," says Sabatino. "But she hasn't moved the case on to the left. She has been totally focused on winning the election—and you can't win it from the left no matter what the blog says."

And while many Democratic voters are motivated by a desire for redrawing over the Iraq

THE FOLEY FACTOR

A Republican's lewd messages to pages are giving Democrats a boost

BY LAURA CO. SAVAGE • It was the day before Florida Republican Mark Foley lit the match that could torch his party's hold on Congress. Nancy Pelosi, the Democratic leader in the House, stood beneath the chandeliers and gilded mirror of her royal blue office on Capitol Hill on Sept. 26 and belatedly in her chic cordless pump on the first line between sound-biting the conservative-run Congress—and sounding like a liberal con spokeswoman from San Francisco.

Speaking to reporters before heading out to campaign for Democrats in a dozen different states, she added the words "God will ring" each time she invoked the possibility of a Democratic victory in the congressional elections on Nov. 7—a win that would make the 66-year-old grandmother of five speaker of the House, second in line to the presidency after Vice President Dick Cheney, and the first-ever woman to hold the job. She compared the upcoming weeks of campaigning to Christ's trials in the desert and the days Noah spent on the Ark (or, as she corrected herself, "Noah and his wife"). She critiqued Republican legislators on the treatment of detainees at Guantanamo Bay and elsewhere without actually discussing torture. And when asked to respond to GOP accusations

that Democrats would "coddle" terrorists, she growled: "I think every person in America would tear those people to shreds! With their bare hands!"

Democrats need to gain only 15 seats for Pelosi to seize control of the 435-seat House of Representatives (in the Senate, they need 51). The gap appears modest, given that when Republicans swept the House in 1994, they gained fully 54 seats. But over

past four sessions, partisan redistricting has since created so many safe seats for one party or the other that only some 30 to 40 seats are considered to be "in play." The day after Foley's penis-on-pages scandal, University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato, who analyzes congressional races, was declaring the can piggy-back even "it's right on the edge of the heater grill," he said. All year, Democrats had been making gains, built on despair over the Iraq war and corruption scandals in Congress. But those were erased in September by presidential speeches on national security and a GOP rough-on-terrorists congressional legislative campaign.

Then came Foley, and the news that, beginning in the late 1990s, the congressman had sent electronic pleas to male teenage congressional pages, asking them to send him

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was Pelosi has been provoking for months that Democrats will launch unopinionated hearings into allegations that Bush misled Americans into war, despite a suggestion last year from John Conyers of Michigan, the senior Democrat on the House Judiciary committee, that the topic be looked at instead, she is promising to make sure "We would have bipartisan administration of the House. I think it is important for us to rid ourselves of this toxic paranoia," she said.

On occasion, the Pelosí agenda is less direct. "I don't think the public has heard anything that sounds terribly coherent," says Will Hulse, a senior adviser to the Progressive Policy Institute, a think tank of moderate Democrats. "The Democratic party has not thought through their alternatives all the way to the end, so that would occasion some battles and expose some flaws." One flank in the Democrats are divided over what to do. Some want an immediate pullout, some a more gradual withdrawal, others have called for sending more troops. "The House Democrats' planifiers, the 'New Direction for America,' talk about a 'phased redeployment' of troops beginning this year, and somehow getting 'Iraqis to take responsibility for their country.'"

Perhaps hating that on her first day in office, she would pass new ethics rules to "wipe the name" of Republican corruption. Then comes charging all the recommendations of the 700-member ad hoc commission the chairman gave and financial aid for academics, on putting lower drug prices for seniors on Medicaid, and imposing some Bush tax cuts. But unless Democrats master a mystery in the Senate, she could be limited to passing symbolic bills and resolutions rather than legislation that could pass both chambers. As argued by Bush, and actually become law. "The more likely scenario is a narrow majority in the House, if not the Senate, that will be able to pass a handful of popular, non-partisan bills but will be unable to do a lot," says John Forster, a fellow at the conservative American Enterprise Institute.

Democratic character of House committees, which have the power to hold hearings and to subpoena documents, could expose information damaging to the administration in areas ranging from post-9/11 war intelligence to the New Orleans reconstruction. With the 2008 elections in view, that challenge will be to seize the opportunity to embarrass Republicans—without providing a public spectacle. “Certainly Congress has a right and a responsibility to ensure the checks and balances responsibilities, and we will certainly do that, but in a constructive way as we go forward,” the said.

Ignore the gullibility

...and Jean-Daniel Lafond's *Conversations in Tehran* is worthwhile



BY MICHAEL PETRUCO • If Jean-Daniel Lafont, husband of Governor General Michaëlle Jean, has any doubts about whether Canada's viceregal consort should celebrate his friendship with an Islamic assassin, they don't appear in his latest book. Conversations in Tehran, co-authored with Fred A. Reed and published this month. The book includes a chapter on Hassan Agha, an Iranian, an American assassin who



TOO BAD about the music
sin and the conspiracy

was born with the name David Redfield and was drawn to politics during a young man in 1980, shortly after Iran's Islamic revolution. Iranian agents in the U.S. ordered Alsharbat to murder Ali Akbar Tehrani, a former Iranian diplomat. Alsharbat diagnosed himself in a prison, shot Tehrani his friend and fled to Iran, where he has lived ever since. In a 2002 interview with *The New Yorker*, Alsharbat said he had "no problem" with the Sept. 11, 2001, attack on the Pentagons, but added that he would have avoided the White House.

Lafund and Revell praise Abdulmutalib as a "pious, patient, uncomplaining sufferer after truth." Abdulmutalib explains that it was easy to shoot Tiberius because America has "a long running history of rape, robbery and murder." He is rarely challenged during the conversion. Lafund has said that it is

NORWAY: SCHOOLBOYS NEED TO IMPROVE AIM

Opposition politicians in southern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are battling to bring down a local school ordering boys to urinate while sitting down. Minister Asim Lone said the school was "backward" because, the says, young boys are fed with their urine. But Vice-Chief Minister of the Democratic party demanded a discussion by the school district, saying the rule is contrary to nature and an attack on freedom. "It is a human right not to have to sit down like a girl."

BUSINESS

DEMISE OF THE DOW

The venerable measure of the U.S. stock market ain't what it used to be.



CHARLES DOW was first to help investors track the stock market in the 1890s

IN ANCHOR HARBOR—America's business environment kept bankers on the financially sophisticated and mad as hell. When the curtain raised on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange suddenly started to act like a piddy schoolgirl, The Dow Jones Industrial Average, the most widely quoted benchmark of the U.S. 10,000 market, had just dived below the 10,000 point for the first time, after weeks of frenzied antagonism. With the burner finally breached, dove-New York mayor Rudolph Giuliani, along with representatives from the New York City Bar Association, showed 10,000 baseball cards on the excited kids below—in celebration of the most anti-stock, anti-bury financial year since its creation.

Flank forward past the down collarage, the rosettes, y/n and the moony, no Taw day, Oct. 3, 2006. The Dew classed to say the highest level in its more than 150-year history, followed three days by another record, and then another. There's been no less testing this time around, though. And the financial markets made only positive reaction of the headline news, first the ruling and then on business fall 2006, 11,728.84. It's really only the first of the series that might get the headline's grip on tonight yet. Slightly has eased. "It's a bit of a throwback," said Sonya Inter, a senior analyst with Morningstar Inc. a Chicago-based investment research firm. "It's terms of a broad forward indicator of what to expect from the U.S. economy, the Dew really isn't the metric to look to anymore."

There's no denying that Dow's central role in the history of American capitalism, a role as central as Dow Jones & Company Inc., publisher of the Wall Street Journal, has carefully honed. Until Charles Dow, a high school dropout-turned-journalist, came along in the late 1890s, most investors lived in the dark.

Ventures division, which generated US\$66.4 million in revenue last year, remain one of the fastest growing and most profitable parts of the company. So it's no surprise the *Journal*, by far the most influential business publication in the world, treats the Dow as the pre-eminent measure of the US stock market going short shrift to competing indices.

Despite a free advertising blitz from the Jewell staff, there's no shortage of reasons to explore the Dow's apparent fall from grace. No. 1 is how it's structured. While many investors think of the Dow as a broad stock index, it's not. The Dow is an average price of just 30 stocks, with some serious retooling. Every stock is given equal importance, no matter the size of the company. The Standard & Poor's 500 index, a much broader and more representative reflection of the U.S. market, is calculated using companies' market value rather than stock price. The S&P 500 will have 14.6 percent to climb before it gets back to its March 2000 high.

Not a trace of a hint of guidance on how the Dow's 30 companies are picked. Over the decades, the editors of the Journal have occasionally huddled in an office somewhere to decide which names to add and drop from the Dow. Among those choices have turned almost whimsical. In 1946, they booted IBM off the list, and didn't bring it back for 42 years. Those years just happened to be the company's fastest growth period, and if IBM

had been included all along, the Dow would be far higher today than it is.

The editors' enthusiastic devotion to heavy industry reassures the Dow's biggest selling-U.S. investor, Russia's central bank, which in 1999, when Microsoft Corp. and Intel Corp. were added, that the Dow had every right to remain on the influential NASDAQ stock exchange, and there are no Internet companies on the list. The Dow looks downright stable today. Take Alcoa, for instance. The aluminum producer can trace its roots back to wealthy industrialist Andrew Mellon, and when it was added to the Dow in 1959 it still controlled more than half of the U.S. market. Alcoa remains the largest aluminum producer in the world, but after last week's merger of two Russian aluminum giants, the tale was a foregone conclusion in an era when the industrialists Mellon and Carnegie have given way to Microsoft and Google, the Dow's Old Economy that seems out of place.

It seems the smart money has moved on. International money managers barely track the Dow's movements. According to Morningstar, 34 index mutual funds in the U.S. are modelled on the S&P 500, with assets totalling more than US\$164 billion. The Dow? One fund, a paragon at US\$10.5 million.

Still, the Dow has its defenders. Charles Carlson, contributing editor of the *Dow Theory* financial newsletter, thanks the journal's editors for doing a decent job picking the stocks in the Dow without getting caught up in any of the Internet bubble hype of the 1990s. "I know a lot of people like to bid against the Dow, but they could have fallen in the trap and followed the crowd into all sorts of crazy stuff," he says. Nor does he see much to be gained from following him to the Dow's recent high. If the Dow begins to decline in 2000, which he predicts will happen this year, "people will get to thinking, 'well, the train is leaving. I'd better get on board,'" he says. "That's going to generate a lot more attention and energy. Those are the millionaires that do people people's business."

In other words, the Dow's value has largely been psychological hold on investors. Maybe the people at Dow Jones felt they needed to tighten their grip. A few months ago, Fries de Gupta, director of research at Dow Jones Indicators, published a paper called "The Past and Present and Prospects for the Future of the Dow." He called on readers to think of the U.S. as one giant corporation, and the Dow as its stock price. And using the last decade as a trend, "in the spirit of playing Nostradamus," Gupta warned a page later the Dow is headed for \$1,821 in the year 2049. It's just not clear whether anyone will notice. ■

RUSSIA'S MOB RULE

Two recent murders symbolize the failure of economic reform plans

BY COLIN CAMPBELL • Last month, Andrei Kozlov, the 41-year-old deputy chairman of Russia's central bank, was shot and killed, along with his driver, as he left a soccer stadium in Moscow. Kozlov, who spearheaded the country's effort to reform its corrupt banking system, had chased down dozens of banks suspected of having links to organized crime, and in the process made some dangerous enemies. Last weekend, with Russia's business community still reeling over Kozlov's unsolved murder, Sergei Zaitsev, the chief enforcer for oil company Krasnoyarsk, was found dead in his country house. He had been shot three times, including once in the head.

Experts say these are just the latest in an escalating war for control of Russia's economy—one that pits organized crime against an increasingly violent and vulnerable reformer trying to bring the country's corporate sector into the modern age. Just last year, Anatoly Chubais, who headed Russia's privatization push in the 1990s, narrowly escaped an assassination attempt outside of Moscow. And while the most recent domestic killings may not be the same as the ones that took place in 1999 after the fall of the Iron Curtain, they nevertheless send a worrying signal that Russia's efforts to build a real, market-driven economy have stalled. Many argue these efforts have been abandoned altogether.

On the surface, Russia has been thriving of late. Much of the growth, however, is built around the booming oil and gas industry. Russia has some of the world's largest energy reserves, and as prices have shot up, the country's wealth and global influence have risen. But energy prices may only be papering over deep flaws in the economy. "The incentive for maintaining the momentum of economic structural reform declined in the later part of the first Putin administration as oil prices rose," says Andrew Kuchins, director of the Russian and Eurasian program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington. "Russia has been able to enjoy robust economic growth despite the fact it

hasn't proceeded aggressively with some of the things on the agenda."

The headwinds to economic reform efforts have been mirrored by political shifts back to the old days of authoritarianism, says David Satter, a professor of international relations and public analytics at the University of Toronto. "The central government in many ways has moved toward the development of a real market," he says. "It seems to have bought into the notion that Russia needs to become a superpower again." At Russia's energy sector blossomed, the Kremlin took control of some of the largest companies, such as Gazprom. The shift began in 2001, when aspiring politician Mikhail Khodorkovsky, the head of oil company Sibneft, was thrown in jail and his company's assets auctioned off into the hands of the government.

The Kremlin, meanwhile, has reverted to its old tactics of bullying neighbours, as it did with Ukraine last winter, and more recently



ANDREI KOZLOV, banking industry reformer, killed Sept. 16

with Georgia. Russia has been throwing its weight around through state-controlled oil and gas companies, investigating corruption within oil companies like Shell, and raising alarm among a number of foreign governments, including Japan, Britain and the United States. All this raises questions about whether Russia will ever be in a position to join the World Trade Organization and become a functioning contributor to international commerce. Membership would mean opening up its notoriously opaque and rickety industries to scrutiny and competition. Despite a decade-long push for membership, it's no longer clear that Russia has the ability or the inclination to take this step.

As economic reform has fallen by the wayside, so too has the rule of law to protect investments and personal rights, says Brian Whitton, a fellow at Russia's business world. "It's likely that Russia will be a country where the rule of law is not a reality," he says. "The rule of law is not a reality in Russia."



PHOTO: ALAN GOODMAN/ALAMY



When will you wake up to snow and ice covered roads?

In Canada, it's not a question of "if" winter will hit us, but when. At its most disruptive and dangerous, winter will ravage our roads, causing drivers difficulties that can lead to tragic outcomes. Unfortunately, many Canadians won't take this fact seriously until it's too late.

Athough many of us are missing the benefits of improved stopping power with effective winter tires (such as Canadian Tire's exclusive all-new "Goodyear Nordic" Winter Tire), it's unfortunate the decision often comes after we're locked in as a down call. The best is, winter tires can save lives by helping us control our vehicles better, stop sooner, and avoid serious accidents on snow and ice.

The difference is in the design. Unlike traditional "all-season" tires, winter tires have more lateral biting edges (sipes) and the tread blocks are spaced for optimum grip on snow and ice. Furthermore, all-season tires begin to lose their elasticity when temperatures drop to near or below freezing, due to their rubber compound, even when roads are bare. This can contribute to taking longer to stop — which can make all the difference in the world.

Canadian Tire's exclusive new Goodyear Nordic Winter Tire has a specially designed tread for more positive traction, and is made with a more flexible, ice-softening compound than ordinary all-season tires. The result: For Canadian drivers, it's better winter handling and safer stops, even in the worst winter weather.

As the cold season approaches, many Canadians will wonder if this is the year they should get winter tires. Immediately, a percentage will wait, and a major handful — as if waiting for insurance that

winter would arrive — and they will find themselves encountering difficulties they could have easily avoided. This winter, don't be frustrated or disappointed. Go to Canadian Tire before the snow flies again, and order yourself a full set of Goodyear Nordic Winter Tires — made especially for Canadian winters, and exclusively for Canadian Tire.

How to choose the right tires for winter driving

Winter tires are made for a wide range of vehicle types and applications. To determine the ideal tires for your vehicle, identify the conditions under which they need to perform. Canadian Tire's winter tire experts can help you decide, by asking a few important questions about your vehicle, your driving preferences and your performance expectations, such as handling, durability, mileage, comfort and noise. The size of the tire should be specified by your vehicle owner's manual, or the sticker attached inside your door. Otherwise, refer to the dimensions on the side of the original driver-installed tire. If uncertain, ask the experts at Canadian Tire.

Tire rim investment

To ensure the best possible tire performance and longevity, drivers are encouraged to install their winter tires on dedicated discs for easy replacement and to prevent excessive wear of the rims and tires.

Winter tire safety: all vehicles need "all fours"

Some drivers don't realize that winter tires provide better control for all vehicles on snow and ice — even 4x4s. Just because four-wheel drive (4WD) or all-wheel drive (AWD) designs may assist in forward and lateral motion, it doesn't mean they have better braking capabilities, especially in winter conditions. But, with winter

tires, they will stop quicker. The key is that all vehicles should be equipped with the same type and size of winter tires on all four wheels, as designated by the vehicle manufacturer. Having only two winter tires could change a vehicle's balance so much as to make it unsafe. Forward and lateral motion can be compensated, increasing the risk of losing control and potentially spinning out.

Stopping power

There is a measurable difference in the capability of stopping on snow and ice, between Canadian Tire's Goodyear Nordic Winter Tires and ordinary all-season tires. The benefits, however, are immeasurable.

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At 60 km/h, Canadian Tire's Goodyear Nordic Winter Tires stop, on average, up to 12 ft. (3.6 m) shorter on snow and up to 10 ft. (3.0 m) shorter on ice, compared with their most popular all-season tire.



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The long, losing war to smear Wal-Mart



STEVE MAICH

Physicist Wal-Mart has been for them, these are dark days. Until recently, you didn't have to work too hard to convince people that the world's biggest retailer was plotting to destroy every little community in which it set up shop. Over the past decade, we've been repeatedly told that Wal-Mart is corrupt, rapacious, corporate villain that exploits workers, crushes rivals and is responsible for everything from the U.S. trade deficit to the destruction of the environment. At its most progressive-thinking urbanites about Wal-Mart, they'll likely tell you the so-called "best boss America" reputation everything that's wrong with big business.

The facts say otherwise, and the facts are finally starting to win the argument.

Last week, for example, Wal-Mart announced the expansion of its program to slash prices on a long list of common generic drugs. By the end of next year, the company has promised to make about 100 medications available nationwide for US\$10 per month. Wal-Mart's critics, of course, aren't impressed by this. They say the company is only using its enormous buying power to grab market share from rival drugstores, and to cash in on some good publicity. The beneficiaries of this initiative are not its clients, however. The medications on call in its publicity stunt if they don't want thousands of poor and sick Americans aren't really interested in reducing our medicines. They just want the pills.

This is a particularly important issue for Wal-Mart, because the company is regularly sued for its own failure to provide decent health coverage for its employees. Of course that is a problem that goes well beyond Wal-Mart—more than 60 million Americans lack health insurance, according to the latest figures from the U.S. Census Bureau. Still, less than half of Wal-Mart's workers have access to health insurance, and last October, an internal memo was leaked in which officials acknowledged that the company's medical benefits were too expensive for many of its hourly employees

to afford. The critics claimed they finally had "smoking gun" proof that Wal-Mart was knowingly exploiting workers.

A more dispassionate reading of the memo might have given the company credit for taking a hard look at the economics, and for acknowledging some errors in the complaints. But Wal-Mart's critics aren't generally inclined to grant the benefits of any doubt. And so, when executives recently announced an overhaul of the company's medical benefits, replacing its high-premium, low deductible package with a plan offering low premiums (US\$11 a month), higher deductibles, and health savings accounts in which employee contributions are matched by up to US\$2,500 from the company, opponents wailed that it was even worse than the old system.

Once again, however, the obviousness was the real point. The main problem with the old

available jobs, and last week, people seemed to lose for hours to take part in a grand opening. By the end of that first day, more than 5,000 had streamed through its doors.

This isn't just consumer apathy or worker desperation at work. The company's opponents, led by the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, are losing the ground war because they picked the wrong target. They insist that Wal-Mart destroys local economies, but the places that are struggling most are those that fought to keep the workers out, and then watched as more and more commercial activity and employment fled to the Wal-Mart friendly suburbs. They attack Wal-Mart for victimizing poor people, when in reality it may be the best thing that ever happened to low-income families. Consider that Wal-Mart is among the most prominent voices in Washington fighting for a more an-

The company's opponents are losing the fight because they picked the wrong target

package was that the expense prevented staffers from joining in the line phone, and imposed long wait times on new hires. These problems are now largely fixed. And in a country in which deprecating health care are provoking hundreds of major companies to scale back coverage or to cancel it entirely, Wal-Mart is outstanding in the opposite direction—extending medical insurance benefits to thousands of people who currently have none. You might think that would earn them a pat on the back, even from the critics. But that's not Wal-Mart we're talking about.

It's becoming increasingly clear, however, that ordinary North Americans have begun to see the anti-Wal-Mart crusade for the ill-fated smear campaign that it is.

For evidence of the shifting tide in public opinion, look no farther than the city of Chicago. Local residents fought for years to keep Wal-Mart out of the Windy City, even attempting to pass anti-prohibitory "no-bid" development unless the stores agreed to pay at least a five-cent US\$100 a square foot last month, the city's Democratic, union-backed mayor vetoed the ordinance, arguing that Wal-Mart and other similar retailers would bring much needed jobs, investment and development to desperately poor parts of the city. Wal-Mart received 15,000 applications for the 400



IN CHICAGO, 15,000 applied for 400 jobs

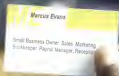
the U.S.'s highest minimum wage of US\$11.50 an hour. Why? Because Wal-Mart pays its staff well over US\$10 an hour on average, but reflects its customers aren't so lucky. A raise at the minimum wage would put money in the pockets of typical Wal-Mart shoppers but wouldn't raise the chain's costs as all.

These are the uncomfortable facts that make the life of the anti-Wal-Mart campaigners. There will always be snobs and dogmatists who hate Wal-Mart for one reason or another, and that's their prerogative. But don't think for a second that those who shop or work there are dupes. They're the ones who've been paying attention. ■



NEVER A DULL MOMENT DOWN IN THE TUBE

Keith Jackson of North Wales has what one British newspaper describes as the most boring job in the world. Jackson, a technical manager for Aquatic Coatings in Wrexham, works for a company that supplies paint for the London Underground, where it can be applied to the tubes only between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m., and must be ready for walking on shortly thereafter. It's falls to Jackson to watch paint dry and time exactly how long it takes.



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FOR YOU

How To Succeed In Small Business

If you're thinking about starting your own business, rest assured you're not alone. There's a multitude of entrepreneurs ready to set up shop. According to a recent Ipsos-Reid survey, some 3.2 million Canadians would like to start their own enterprise. Nearly one million aspirants hope to form their company within one year. More and more Canadians indicate that starting a business or being self-employed is their preferred choice for making a living.

"Many people are looking to leave Corporate Canada to start their own business," says Kris Depewere, National Manager, Small Business at Women's Markets, RBC Financial Group. "They want to be their own boss and accomplish their dreams. It's all about having more flexibility and control over your fate." She adds that you should try to get your back working for you at an early stage of the game. "There's a lot we can do for you to streamline your day-to-day banking to help you save time so you can put more back into your business."

By no means is starting or growing a successful small business easy. Some people talk for years about going into business for themselves but fear holds them back. Others take the plunge – and many succeed, despite the odds.

You certainly can improve your chances for success by doing your homework. Understand the marketplace, customer needs, the competition and, most importantly, refine your strategy and

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

vision for success. "The key is figuring out what your gift is," says Jerome Sloan, executive coach and managing partner of The Coaching Clinic in Toronto. "Imagine what success is like and then look backwards from your success. By looking backwards, it's easier to see what the necessary steps are. When you are looking forward, you tend to see the big hills ahead and it's harder to strategize."

Shore counsellors professionals who are ready to embark on their own enterprises. "Often, what limits people is that they're trying to do something in a unique way, and that's silly," says the business coach. "Don't try to invent something new or do something extraordinarily difficult. Do what others are doing, but just do it better."

Small businesses are doing better, thanks to the economy. Bankruptcies have fallen to

66. Imagine what success is like and then look backwards from your success. By looking backwards, it's easier to see what the necessary steps are. When you are looking forward, you tend to see the big hills ahead and it's harder to strategize. 79



Who succeeds?

Benjamin Tsi, senior economist for CBC World Markets, closely monitors the pulse of small business. From his surveys, he finds that almost two-thirds of business owners are "idealsists." Their goal is not to become the next Bill Gates. They strive for the right balance between earnings and quality of life. Tsi has also identified a smaller group of super-achievers. These small-business practitioners stand out for the following reasons:

TECHNOLOGY: Tech-savvy small firms

with a high level of Internet and wireless capabilities grow their revenues at 2.25 times the rate of those that are not Web-connected. **EXPORTING INTERNET SALES:** Small businesses that export more than half of their Internet-based sales experienced 2.5 times the growth of their counterparts who didn't sell outside of Canada.

ADVISORS: By nature, entrepreneurs tend to be super-optimists. Good professional advisors offer a more realistic view of life. Owners who consulted advisors regularly tallied

sales 76% higher than those who didn't. **INCORPORATED:** Small businesses that formed corporations increased their revenues 40% more than sole proprietors who didn't incorporate. **OUTSOURCING:** Firms that offered outsourcing work to other companies registered earnings 61% higher than those that didn't. **OUTSOURCING CONTRACT WORK TO THIRD PARTIES:** Small firms whose leaders have acquired some post-secondary education have experienced revenue growth 2.6 times greater than those with leaders who haven't done so.

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the past three years and profits are holding steady. The business landscape is changing, as small businesses are actually getting smaller, and startups are not as capital-intensive as they once were, as more entrepreneurs are attracted to the SOHO - Small Office Home Office - business structure.

Laurence Molevaux, senior product manager for Visa Canada, has identified three prevailing trends in small business. These days, she notes, more seniors (the 55-plus crowd) and more women are joining the ranks of the self-employed. "In Canada, it's becoming much easier for people to start their own businesses," says Molevaux, "and entrepreneurs are generally becoming more knowledgeable because access to information is so much easier with the World Wide Web."

Finding the funds

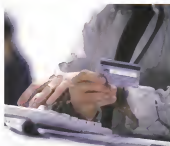
It certainly takes money to get any venture off the ground. More than 90% of small businesses have to borrow one way or another. You might tap into your personal savings, get a second mortgage on your house, or mix out your credit cards to get the venture going.

You can beg or borrow from friends and relatives who may share your vision of success. They may buy into your plans in exchange for some equity in the company. Everybody remembers what happened when the founders of Trivial Pursuit tapped into their friends: the lucky ones who invested got rich.

Then there is, of course, the option of borrowing from lending institutions. Banks are targeting the small business sector like never before and now offer customized approaches to your business through specialized industry groups that can tailor financial requirements to your line of business.

Currently, six Canadian banks - CIBC, Desjardins, Laurentian Bank, RBC Royal Bank, Scotiabank and TD Canada Trust - offer the Visa Business Card. Through this credit card, you can get merchant discounts from companies such as Visa Retail, Vancor, Office Depot and Sony. There are also various cash-back programs and other savings incentives.

An entrepreneur's challenge is to put together a plan or "story" that lets an investor see how your business will make money and what they can expect as a payback. You must carefully



identify your market, quantify the potential interest in your service or product, and figure out how much it will cost to get these customers. The data then becomes part of the financial component of your business plan.

It may seem daunting at first to write a comprehensive business plan, but there's a ton of free advice, templates and help just mouse clicks away on the Internet. A good place to start is the Canada Business Service Centre at www.cbcc.org. This federal government site has loads of information on start-up steps, financing a business, marketing, location, and importing and exporting. It also contains links to your home province so you can discover local resources and regulations.

Another valuable resource comes from RBC, which offers its Definitive Guide series for small business owners at www.thecapitalbank.com/business/definitiveguide. These resource booklets cover a wide range of topics, such as marketing, e-commerce, managing growth, customer loyalty, financing and successful alliances. Many of the guides contain practical workbooks.

Visa's small business site at www.visa.ca/smallbusiness provides a valuable primer on good business practices, with topics germane to entrepreneurs.

With so much help close at hand, you can advance your chances of making your startup a long-term success. ■

66 In Canada, it's becoming much easier for people to start their own businesses and entrepreneurs are generally becoming more knowledgeable because access to information is so much easier with the World Wide Web. 77



THE BOTTLE AND THE DAMAGE DONE

From murder to lost weekends: John A. Macdonald's tragic life

BY BRIAN BETHUNE • On a spring night in 1873, John A. Macdonald, only seven years old, watched as a drunken caregiver beat his four-year-old brother James to death. The caregiver, a man named Kennedy, was a friend and employee of the boys' father, Hugh. Kennedy had brought John and James to a room in Kingston, Ont., home to the Macdonald family since they left Glasgow two years before. As John A. recalled that evening decades later in his private secretary Joseph Poge, Kennedy "dove in on the boys." "Start taking the boys"—at least was at that point in his life—John took James's hand and made a run for home. But the younger brother stopped and fell, and when Kennedy caught up with them, he struck James with his cane so viciously that the boy went into convulsions. He died a few hours later.

No police investigation or charge followed; James died at his bedside as the family plot to erect a round offed with the family plot. Hugh used to note the exact birth times of his children. Years later, however, another hand—John A.—erased a fatal notation in that book. "James died on Monday, 12 April at 10 minutes 6 of clock p.m." Poge's Pomeroy's judgment in the compelling book about Macdonald's personal life, *Private Demos* (McClintell & Stewart) seems to be the father closer to remember, but the brother couldn't forget. "I never had a child-

hood," an elderly, melancholy Macdonald told Poge. And, as Pomeroy shows, adult hood had more than its share of sorrow too.

The public highs and lows of Canada's first prime minister, the indispensable man at the founding of this improbable nation, have been told or far surpassed for over a century. Far more than his virtues, Macdonald's character flaws—if that's not too mild a word for them—are the very stuff of mythology in Canada, making him a kind of anti-George Washington. Even by the standards of the boozing 19th century, Macdonald was a notorious binge drinker, a man who would take himself to bed for days, drowning bottle after bottle of port. (The sister-in-law of governor general Francis Monk—Queen Victoria's representative—also soon learned they had to keep close tabs on Mr. Minister's first minutes—once reported to Monk that Macdonald had been found in his nightgown, drunkenly scolding himself before his bedroom mirror.)

Macdonald's tolerance for political corruption—the buying and selling of votes—was high, although political office never reached him personally. (In September 1866, the prime minister of the newly named Dominion of Canada was threatened with arrest by his own court servants if he didn't pay his car arrears.) His cynicism was boundless.

MACDONALD'S character flaws are the very stuff of mythology in Canada

In one close election campaign, Macdonald secretly took the temperance pledge in public. He then went home and raised a toast to celebrate his gaffe. Even his charm seemed somehow sinister: an acquaintance once came upon the Tory Macdonald and a Liberal member in an alcove of the legislative assembly. Macdonald had his hand on the other man's shoulder, while the Liberal was saying, "Ah, John A., how I love you; how I wish I could trust you."

But for all the attention focused on the public and mythic Macdonald, little has been said to his private life, says Pomeroy in an interview. "I wanted to look at him as a man, husband and father." In *Private Demos*, she examines his two unhappy wives—Isabella, a classic Victorian widow who spent much of her married life in an opium-induced haze, and Agnes, much more John A.'s intellectual match, but equally unhappy because of the way he shirked his responsibilities. And then there were the formidable Macdonald women, sisters Louisa and Margaret—who made many households, raised his children, and coped with his disgruntled whims—and his mother, Helen. "I think they all spoiled him," says Pomeroy, "especially his mother," who instilled in him a belief in his destiny.

In that regard, as in so many others, Macdonald set the Canadian political template. From him through Mackenzie King to Pierre



THE ASSASSINATED MORGAN was a soon drinking pal

Trudeau, the importance of the mother-son bond can scarcely be exaggerated. After 60 years of support, however, it's not the only link between Macdonald and Trudeau. There was also the urge to fight overseas: after a private audience with Queen Victoria in London, Macdonald visited Queen Victoria's moor track, where he and his friends amused themselves firing sports at the crowd. "When I learned that," Pomeroy says, "all I could think of was Trudeau and that private be-

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hind Queen Elizabeth."

Phenix keeps diving back, however, to that tragic accident in Macdonald's childhood. "I think it was there, when James was killed, that he began to run and kept running, justifying his ambitions no matter what it cost others around him, because—in Sarah Plater terms—he was always aware something might catch him." Certainly, she argues, the memory of James must have flooded his mind 55 years later as he sat on the April dusk of an Ottawa doorman's cradle, the situated level of Thomas O'Mary McGee, a soon-dying polio dead from an assassin's bullet. He came home blood splattered and white-faced.

"Like unretreated pipe cleaners," John A. stood on her, but Mary's cure was expensive, and as just as he learned he was responsible for the massive debt of \$75,000 assumed on a failed investment. His health began to deteriorate, in 1879 he was bedridden for a week by gallstones. (His son arrived home to find his stepmother massaging his father's face with whisky, and John A. shouting himself long enough to answer, "Oh, do that again.") Worst of all, Macdonald was caught and handed sentencing letters from the CFC.

There was neither relief at home from political pressure, nor relief to work from domestic sorrow. Something had to give. On



VICTORIAN mourning: Widow Agnes and daughter Mary

with shock, according to Agnes's diary, "McGee is wonderful, it's true," he told her.

Although Phenix keeps the amiable psychology to a minimum, her depiction of the dual crises of domestic and public life that assailed Macdonald in an ever-tightening grip after McGee's death makes *Phenix's Dream* a real contribution to Canadian history. In February 1869, Agnes delivered a baby daughter, Mary, who soon proved to be severely disabled with hydrocephalus, her head abnormally large, and her legs, notes Phenix,

as true as he was under from all sides. Whatever the truth, the episode marked the nadir of his life, both public and private. If his darkening never quite disappeared afterwards, neither did he. And although he had to resign himself to a five-year stint in opposition, Macdonald returned triumphantly to office in 1878, and remained prime minister until his death at 76 in 1891. During his last election campaign in 1890, admirers took to greasing him with cries of "Joe! Joe! never die, Joe A." (It's hard to blame them.) ■



SASKATCHEWAN: LUCY IN THE SKY WITH SILOS

A town better known for grain than itself was the birthplace of the word "psychosomatic." Borrowed by a University of Alberta medical historian has found that in 1936, British psychiatrist Humphrey Osmond came to Weyburn, Sask., to experiment curing alcoholics with cathartic hallucinations induced by the drug LSD. In a letter to the novelist Aldous Huxley, who followed the work, Osmond wrote of the need for "a pinch of the psychotic."

Religious, Whiggish
And deeply frightening

Mark Steyn warns of THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT



America is hated for every reason.

Financial Muslims say we are too decadent. Secular Europeans think we are Bible-thumping rebels. Anti-Semites hate us for supporting Israel. The Jews, too Christians, too Muslims... whatever you're against, America is the prime example of it. So says conservative columnist Mark Steyn in his first and eagerly awaited new book, *America Alone*.

With discerning wit and startling clarity, Steyn shows how the world is irreversibly changing and how America must get serious and fight, or be consumed. But Steyn also shows why the future, if the West has one, belongs to America alone.

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media

Lloyd Robertson is sitting at the anchor desk in CTV's suburban Toronto studio flipping a *Madison* reporter the bird, cades and rag flags born at the start, the middle digit, exhibiting a perfect combination of dignity and cool, erect and wearing around the neck a blue TV base. As *Mad* flipping goes, Robertson's form is good. "Do you see that?" says the 73-year-old, who on Oct. 18 marks 10 years as a CTV national newscaster. Robertson, the face of CBC's *The National* for six years prior to his explosive departure in 1978, is North America's longest-serving national anchor, but of a time made otherwise extinct by retirement (Wilbur Cohen), suspension (Tom Rafter) and death (Peter Jennings). Less familiar dominated by Kevin Newman, Katie Couric and Anderson Cooper, he is an antediluvian success clinging to the landscape by an outcrop of anchor desk.

And today, at the desk but not yet in make-up—it's a turtleneck, a lab coat, a bow tie with our face pain, his hair, still a granddaddy mass, awaiting an aerodynamic treatment—Robertson is finalizing his mobile finger. Why the obscurity (Facebook)? The anchor initially wanted no part in an article commemorating his anniversary. "I think 25 and 30 are the big years," he says. "What's the big deal with 30? If I make it to 50, we'll really do it then." Perhaps the dignified gesture is a response to that generation of whippersnapper anchor, his competitor (Peter Mansbridge, Newman), whose ratings, despite his onetime lechery, Count *Down* anchor, he consistently beats—501,000 average viewers a night between Feb. 8 and Aug. 27 to second-place *Claudia* Robertson's 377,000. Robertson, after 30 years in the business, finds himself presiding over a 500-channel and -country franchised TV universe where never loyalty—the land is taken decades to cultivate—has otherwise faded.

How has he lasted? He is, of course, very good at what he does. "He has the fundamental anchor's skill of being connected to his stories and also of being very credible," says Martha Barber, a broadcast-journalism prof at Ryerson University. "He's your very readable and well-informed and credible uncle—and would your uncle lie to you?" Then too, sheer longevity has its own way of beginning staying power. "There's something to be said for a comfortable leg of flippers," says Cliff Lonsdale, a journalism prof at the University of Western Ontario. "There's nothing like filing the shoes to fill the shoes."

AND THAT'S THE KIND OF guy he's been: This month marks Robertson's 30th anniversary as a CTV national news anchor. His successor is a *Taboo* subject.

The man himself—off screen a dramatic side who delights in country and western music, catches the rail end of *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart after his newscast and streams from his home in a Markham, Ont., gated community diagnosed in dark glasses and cap (it's his voice that cuts him)—exudes a notorious aloofness. "There are no details about Lloyd's life," says Craig O'Neil, Robertson's long-time CTV colleague. "This is not a guy who's ever done anything unconsidered in his life." Robertson chuckles at his own bluntness. Working nights, he says, "the only thing you can do is lead a disciplined life, which often means a dull life."

Not entirely so. While he may have few friends at home, some suggest it's at work that he can be his "dark shadow"—particularly over young corners up for his job. The personal question in Canadian media circles remains that of Robertson's retirement—when will it

happen, or will he? For years, he and former prime minister Jean Chrétien joked that they'd synchronized departures—out the agenda of public affairs, the motion of the book tube, together. Paul Martin orchestrated Chrétien's leave, Robertson has had no such break. Not since Keith Morrison, a one-time dispatch who, spurned, left CTV in 1993 for the U.S., has Robertson left a spot at the helm.

Robertson says he offered to step aside for Morrison—after hearing "rumblings" he would leave without a chance at the anchor's desk—but an former *National* anchor (Karlson Nash) had done for *Manitoba*. "People wanted responsibility to happen in a choice," says Robertson. "I was relieved that I was the only one who could effectively do that." Robertson set a two-year timeline, which, he acknowledges, "was a little long." He adds: "You know the rule?" In some quarters, Morrison's departure inspired a perception of Robertson as a three-clinging *Madison*—the nation's greatest in Canadian television. "You know Lloyd is an all-time up player, right?" one industry insider who knows him told *Madison*. "There have been a number of pretenders

THE ANCHOR THAT TIME FORGOT

who've been killed by lightning and fished in the hours." (Incidentally, Robertson had little to do with Morrison's leaving and that CTV brass, who saw the younger anchor as a "flake," demanded that Robertson stay; Morrison did not return calls seeking comment for this story.) "Our television is 'our anchor for life,'" says CTV News president Robertson. "He's the heart, his retirement perhaps 'five years away.'"

In a land dominated by Anderson Coopers, Lloyd Robertson, North America's longest-serving newscaster, is an antediluvian success, clinging to an outcrop of anchor desk

BY NICHOLAS KOHLER

of his game." (Really? An 81-year-old anchor? Have passion. "Yes," he says.) Already, Robertson's old, 150-deep-ton voice—on a cellphone it thrums like *George* like an American cat in a matchbox—is the product of a childhood ruled by radio, with its mechanical vocal timbres and thumping, *disruptive* resolve. Born on Jan. 20, 1934, in Stratford, Ont., his father a mechanic with the Canadian National Railway, Robertson went to CBC news announcer Lorne Gossens decades before *Newsweek*, and the sparsely-timed Peter Martin, who still will center hockey fans in both "Canada and Newfoundland"—back before the *Book* joined Confederation. Indeed, it was only at the close of the Second World War that Robertson found his calling, working as a pair of radio announcers provided colour commentary



media

OFF-SCREEN HE'S A DIMINUTIVE DUDE WHO VENTURES FROM HIS HOME IN A GATED COMMUNITY DISGUISED IN DARK GLASSES AND CAP

probably sitting there," he adds, fingers drumming the table in mock anxiety. "What is this guy going to do?" Hartn refuses to speculate on Peter's success as a subject. He calls Robertson a "babe"—nobody wants to talk about it. "But I have," he says. "It's something we work on and we have a plan for it." Oliver says it's not for public consumption. "Confronted with the media agency—Lisa LaRocca, Bob Clark, Global's Kevin Newman—honestly, saying for the press conference. 'We will be able to choose whether we would want including Peter Mansbridge,' he says. "It's never happened that a big network has gone to another network and hired away their lead anchor because the lead anchor was frustrated." (For the record, Mansbridge said MacInnis he's not frustrated—and not even close.)

There's no question Robertson has slowed down. No longer, no vicious, does he point

for work. He spends summers at a cottage outside Haliburton, Ont., with his seven grandchildren, who call him "daddy dad." "He was putting worms on my kids' hooks last summer," Susan says. "Which was like—wow, he's really changed. Because we didn't see a lot of that." And he has taken up horseback riding, a pursuit shared with CTV colleague Oliver—a man just this side of legally blind. "I always ride ahead of him," says Robertson. "And I warn him about the branches." "Craig, look out, branch coming!" Robertson, meanwhile, is under strict instructions to keep his retirement plans from Oliver. "I told him a long time ago: if you ever set a date, I don't want to know," he says. "I've a reporter. I can't keep a secret."

Within years ago, Robertson, shut up in a hospital waiting room, gazed at his daughter Susan, just diagnosed with cancer. "He put looked across the room and I saw an emotional side—I wish this was not written off you." It was the same face that had looked

out upon screens for three decades—direct and trustworthy. According to Oliver, it can be no other way. "You're like the cinema for a little while—anybody can,"

he says. "But not for long. It's really working, the camera. It's an X-ray machine. It's a real bull shit because..." At work, Robertson

helps the crew for the crew on Fridays and has a way, around the desk, of jabbing an index finger at an assignment editor, asserting a matter of principle. "She's the best, she's the best, she's the best." Now—in the vintage of the anchor desk—the mid-40s finger, raised as a MacInnis reporter, will become "they're not there" he says. But really, constructing himself? Or does he ever in question, perhaps not. "Have you ever done that?" asks Robertson. The finger—the one on that middle finger—is a talisman of blacks and browns. It is the aftermath, it turns out, of having caught it in a car door. "It hurts," he adds, grimacing, still slightly wincing the upturned finger. If the gesture, delivered unknowingly, unconsciously—suggests Robertson, in the flesh, it's out of touch, from the opposite side of the TV screen he is in connected to his audience is over. ■



STOP THE PRESSES...CARTOON CANNIBALISM

America's newspaper of record believes in getting the facts straight, even when the subject stands to paralyze cartoon characters. "An article on Sept. 17 about the abundance of satire in American culture referred inaccurately to an article of Sept. 17."

Peak in it, the character cartoon tricks another child into eating his own parents in a bowl of chili; Carman himself does not eat it them."—New York Times

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Epicurean

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AS AN INFAMOUS icon of excess, Dunst is the centerpiece in an eye-candy buffet that mixes period splendor with cheeky anachronisms

Sex and the City in Versailles

With *'Marie Antoinette,'* Sofia Coppola serves an upside-down cake of style as substance

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

Promoting *Marie Antoinette* in Cannes was nothing for trouble. Like bringing coals to Newcastle, or to the inner-city French past to New York. Sofia Coppola, a young American director, had painted a revisionist portrait of France's most infamous royal lady—Kirsten Dunst plays the prodigal queen as a girl who just wants to have fun, and whose fabulous party is easily cut short, along with her head, by a brutally efficient French Revolution. Predictably, there were some bores when the film was launched as Cannes' last May. Some critics resented its political laxity, and others dismissed it as a time-fodder concoction. Which it is. *Marie Antoinette* is the ultimate shopping movie. It plays like *Sex and the City* in Versailles, without the sex. But in a world of film (and film criticism) that is so male-dominated, this champagne cocktail of girlish delirium is a tonic in a tonic.

Movies about teenage women tend to fit some sassy genre, from so-called "chick flicks" (*An American Girl*) to heroic dramas of action and mystery (*Wilden Dollar Baby*). And most are made by men. As a young female director who's arrived on Hollywood's A-list, Coppola is the league of her own, and she brings a uniquely feminine sensibility to the screen.

The three features that Coppola has written and directed—*The Virgin Suicides* (1999), *Lost in Translation* (2001), and *Marie Antoinette*—are all about young women who rebel against a suffocating environment. Coppola herself is a rebel against Hollywood convention. For her, plus recent less conspicuous than character, which is less important than mood. *Lost in Translation* had the intimacy of a jaded daytime *Movie Antoinette* in period

film infused with an ultra-modern desire for pleasure. Usually, costume drama uses decor to package historical substance. Here the eye candy is the substance (in the same way that fashion can be art), while the history serves as window dressing—a revolution raging somewhere beyond the balcony.

Hiding court in Cannes in an walled terrace overlooking the Mediterranean, Coppola explained that she wanted to keep her characters "in this bubble, because none of them could have been going on outside their world. What struck me was how young they were." *Marie Antoinette* was 14 when she was whisked from Vienna to Versailles to marry the 15-year-old dauphin Louis, who takes seven years to consummate their marriage—he's portrayed by Coppola's cousin, Jason Schwartzman in a fluffy, almost comical role.

As the daughter of Francis Coppola, Sofia has grown up in her own bubble of Hollywood royalty, and speaks with a mingled air of selfless privilege, as if the words are barely worth the effort. On the set, she's famous for never reaching her voice. "She's so loving and ineffectual," says Schwartzman. "I think she has her own atmosphere, her own code. Her commands are not almost verbal whistles, which sounds quite lovely in Versailles."

Coppola's own was granted extraordinary access to Versailles. But the movie's anachron-

ism between period splendor and cheeky anachronism is in no way a period of pink, cream and pinstripe: the costumes look as fresh as a New York fashion spread. Marcello Blahnik designed the shoes. Dunst and Schwartzman talk like young Californians. And the sound track fits between 18th-century baroque and bougie '80s pop by New Romantic bands such as Bow Wow Wow. Their song "I Want Candy" pretty well sums up the film, in which paper thin characters are upstaged by fashion. Call it *and/or couture*.

As the tale of a poor little rich girl married by her own old money, *Marie Antoinette* sounds a clear contemporary chord. Her famous line, "Let them eat cake," is framed in a montage of early 19th-century journalists ("Therewithal nonsense," says *Marie Antoinette*) that never says that. And Dunst has compared her character to Princess Diana, a fact, Coppola's movie would make a rich double bill with Stephen Frears's *The Queen* (see page 5). In Frears's film, Helen Mirren delivers a deeply measured portrait of Queen Elizabeth II as a matriarch repelled by the excess of Diana's celebrity, who derives power from duty. Coppola's queen incarnates excess; her royal privilege is to get lost in the superficial pleasure of the moment. And that's exactly what *Marie Antoinette* offers its audience. ■

ON THE WEB: For video interviews from Cannes with Coppola, Schwartzman and others go to www.mademoiselle.com/04/05



WE'RE STALKING

ANNA NICOLE SMITH
Has this woman not suffered enough? This week, newly published pictures from her recent Bahamas romance to her former shenanigans laid down in the surf in her bikini; govt, no doubt, swam in grief over the recent death of her son, or perhaps because of allegations from various men that they're the father of her new baby. Or perhaps it was the fact that Smith consumed too much Kentucky Fried Chicken at the wedding.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS



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THE EVIDENCE of the last 15 years, writes Stene, suggests that Ignatieff is far closer to George W. Bush than Pierre Trudeau

Michael Ignatieff's home-ophobia

The pronoun thing I get. But those tortured protestations of Canadianness? That's weird.

BY MARK STEIN

I have found myself paradoxically fascinated by Michael Ignatieff's return to Canada to claim the Liberal party crown. I say "paradoxically" because there was nothing in the least bit fascinating about that Hey-we're-actually-winning-vince-for-your-or-my-country Iggy manifesto we carried a few weeks back. It was vacillate, bicker, and almost paralytic. It was vacillate, bicker, and almost paralytic. It was vacillate, bicker, and almost paralytic.

My colleague Paul Wells, meanwhile, is much concerned by what Duffy Dark, in a livelier context, called "pronoun trouble"—Ignatieff's habit of saying "we" and "us" when writing about American policy in American newspapers. I'm more sympathetic on this point. In a long and untroubled career, I've written for publications in many lands and from early days I've always been very careful about pronouns. Then I discovered that for the previous six months some mischievous Fleet Street sub editors at the Daily Telegraph, among many other respectable history surveys of the London scene, had been taking out every instance of "you British" and replacing it with "we." More recently, I began to get a flurry of e-mails from Canadians warning that it is a terrible thing to do with even more e-mails from aggrieved Americans bawling at my incompetence at claiming to speak on behalf of their country.

I turned out some inkblots of a whisper-suspect at my publisher's had appended his own subtitle to a forthcoming book of mine and acknowledged it. Americans, thereby, said, with Ignatieff's Pronoun Syndrome and doubtless completely destroying my prospects of a pre-retirement success as a

senior governor of Nunavut.

Having suffered the editing pressures of the New York Times, I wouldn't be surprised if some of the Ignatieff pronouns that so affronted Paul Wells had been inserted by one of their many deputy associate assistant executive copy editors. But, even if they weren't, so what? If, like Ignatieff, you're living and working in America, writing about America for Americans, what's the big deal about the occasional expensive confusion?

With his heartwarming "THERE'S NO HOME-LIKE PLACE!," IGNATIEFF IS LIKE A DYSLEXIC DOROTHY IN A HIGH SCHOOL "WIZARD OF OZ" scenario any other prime minister or president uttering such a formulation—Barack, Blair, Clinton, John Howard, Stephen Harper.

This isn't entirely an abstract concern, too. One of the biggest practical challenges facing Western leaders right now is the question of identity in the 21st century. I've had conversations with British cabinet ministers fretting over how to translate a stronger sense of Dyakness in their second- and third-generation immigrants, British cabinet ministers worrying like we over Britishness, Danish over Daneness, etc. It's likely that a steady no apparent aid of national identity himself will be the chip to achieve this chal-

lenger to lead my country. Why? It is a question of an interesting sociological experiment?

Indeed, I can understand Ignatieff bawling his copy for the New York Times a week after 9/11, and not spotting the reliable pronouns in his apostrophe-prone American not wanting to "dishonor our freedoms." I find it far more worrying that he could write that sentence in *The Right Revolution* at a time when he was positioning himself for a Canadian political career and not appearing as who a pronoun master (useful British expression with which I've old RSC teller has a seemingly familiar) he sounds. Try to

imagine any other prime minister or president uttering such a formulation—Barack, Blair, Clinton, John Howard, Stephen Harper.

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FINALLY A BOOK ABOUT... GONZO ILLUSTRATION

Ralph Steadman is the British artist who gave Bush (as just as often, weren't he?) Hunter S. Thompson's hallucinatory prose its rich texture in *Flare* and *Flare* in the 1970s. In *The Man's Overboard*, Hunter S. Thompson and Mr. Steadman, Steadman shows how the two of them were full partners in the idea that accuracy merely got in a journalist's way when pursuing higher truth. A ravishly funny book about excess and a sad tale of drug-fueled decline.



largest Lake = dystopic Dorothy in a high school Wizard Of Oz, Ignatius's heartwarming in version = "There's no home (laughter)" – only for the most interesting line in *The Rehearsal*, an otherwise awful work that is a modernist novel in no more than an accumulation of emblematic groups with the same as when that year of Canada is current then (in Juan Manuel's film on description) a great book, *La Pierre Mouton* (I wish I could see psychologically something of an abstract level).

The great man's home-optimism is evidently regarded by Liberal leadership delegates as proof that he's the new Trudeau. I was thinking about this the other day when I opened an envelope and this week's Trudeau biography fell out and broke my toe. John English has called the first volume of his magnum opus *Critique of the World*, and I couldn't be

THE BIOGRAPHICAL 'CITIZEN OF THE WORLD' IS A SURE SIGN OF EVASION: PAUL ROBESON, CITIZEN OF THE WORLD—I.E. COMMIE STORGE

the life of the one who left (and so such a thing is) his/her place to be lived seriously and mindfully, and, with the exception of Oliver Goldsmith's volume of letters from a Chinese philosopher in London, it's an eschatology type whose biographical deployment is in a sure sign of the times. It's a book that's not only readable, but also a respectable good intellectual. Mary Robinson, *Editor of the World* – is a trans-oriental shift, Paul Klee, *Centre of the World* – is. Common sense. Tradition's inscription to that from perhaps some term by long ago, since from a few months ago we reach – during Barbara Seaman, sucking up to Winston Pitt Moss – that the Father of Our Country was a product of Quebec at its most Provincial. The most troubling thing occurs after a brief non-writing period, and the book is a collection of letters, Muriel Nazzari, *League of Nations*, *Country* denounces the disorientation of the Versailles Treaty and introduces a

Lovely! For all its charm, Quebec, when confronted with new realities, has always turned inward. And, in reconstructing Canada in his own image, Trudeau favored the center. Toward, so. The men who scrambled ashore at Jomo Beach were more genuinely engaged with the world than their contemporary who chose not to join them. By the end of the life, a close personal bookend existed was common, his Trudeau, nearly as important as would several affairs rather than a role in those.

“That doesn't mean to be a ‘crone’ of the world,” she says. “You value your common humanity.”

Tradava was accompanied by the slave subjects of Cay, his pal Casapauca. Being “right of the world” means that he got to avoid the planet during war, leaders who wouldn't let their armies make amped-up trips to neighboring powers. In case of his profile, he left after 511, to escape a U.S. Bush announced that they would to encourage American schoolchildren and those in Mahean countries to become pen-pals. This was the height of the embargo, most, and finally the last thing the U.S. post office needed was a sudden influx of “humpy envelopes from the South of the United States” guide who in [Jahiliah, he] “trifled” with the idea of Bush's bookish qualities. His determination is in the common humanity even when it's all but undisturbed. He looks, at a seven-year-old in Tibet, to be a difference in a seven-year-old in Crawford. He may be easy to do so, but he's more of a genuine dreamer of the world than Tradava ever was.

The evidence of the last 15 years suggests Ignatieff is far closer to Bush than to Trudeau, or to Mary Robson, Paul Robeson, Peter Liberman or the various other apologists and

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Fiction

LAST MONTH
EVALUATION

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| 8 | RAY OF LIGHTS by Faye Jay Mendel | 8 (3) |
| 9 | CAUSEWAY by Landon Handberg | 8 (3) |
| 10 | THIS IS MY COUNTRY, WHAT'S YOURS? by Noah Kibben | 3 |

do anything for whom "citizens of the world" has been the ultimate passport of convenience. In the Balkans and Iraq, Ignatieff was the victor of terror and dictatorship and wanted the world to act. When he says "we" need to move, that's really all he means "we" as "the civilized world," "us" as "the good guys." Unfortunately, Canada has been an *unwelcome* member of that grouping—at least until Ignatieff's party fell from power at the beginning of this year. In Cambodia a few weeks ago, I was surprised by the number of Asian big game who enquired about his campaigns. One of them, mysteriously re-

proved Ignatieff would have made a rather effective foreign minister in Stephen Harper's cabinet. My bet is that he'd have been happy at that job since when he's headed.

"If only I had the money..."

Over 9,188 Canadians entered the Rogers™ "LIVE YOUR DREAM" Contest, telling us what they would do if only they had the money. Here's one winner's story.



“My initial goal will be rest, but if I were to win a \$1,000 band, I could help not just one family this Christmas, but several.”

Drama can be for you and they can be for someone else. I have been fortunate and my parents give me whatever I need, but I realized that Hispanics that there are lots of kids my age who are not so fortunate. I decided that I wanted to do something to help.

I talked to my mom about adopting a family for Christmas. She contacted Feed News Scouts, an agency that helps food relief programs across the province, to find out what I needed to do. My mom said I not done and came up with ideas to raise money. We set up a car wash & a chair.

where no, good, I am enjoying boogie, having a
good ride, and taking 10% of my efforts each
month and putting it in the pot. You would be
amused as how fast the chain is doing.

I did a presentation in class on Fred News-Born and the plans to adopt a family I met once upon a time – but a link of the link at my class dug out these pictures and gave me whatever change they could find and began giving me their records. My initial goal will be met, but if I were to win a \$1,800 bond, I could help get just one family that Chicanos, but second I hope that I will be able to help some other children's dreams come true.

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EMILY YEUNG with a NASA astronaut: "She actually pays attention," says one parent. Daniel Cook had a tendency to get distracted.

Hi, I'm your new pint-sized TV star

After a Daniel Cook backlash, his hit show has a new host: a firebrand named Emily Yeung

BY BARBARA RIGETON • What goes up must come down, and that's no less true in the high stakes world of paid-into-TV stars. Take the case of Daniel Cook. Exactly one year ago, in Oct. 17, 2005, *Macaulay* ran a story called "Everybody Loves Daniel," extolling the "beauty" of a homespun eight-year-old who said exactly what he thought on his wildly successful show for preschoolers. This is Daniel Cook. Seven months later, the backlash hit. This spring, after 171 episodes of red-headed Daniel feeding a giraffe, milking a cow and riding a horse while rolling his eyes and interrupting adult guests, Internet chat rooms filled with coarseness. "A little brat," a *Vancouver* parent called him. "Ugghy" and "Ahh," others thumbed in. On a website run by the children's TV channel Treehouse, which aired the show, yet another complained about his "horrifying" eating habits and about how he never washed his hands.

Last month, Daniel was replaced by another preschool host, seven-year-old firebrand Emily Yeung. She showed an early flair for coarseness, allowing her eight-year-old sister, Ariel, to pick her own outfit in an interview, and taking on *Teen* magazine's Chris Bush in a game of one-up-manship. She also had the patience (or the skill) and the grace while grown-up guests talked. "Much better!" wrote a mother on *canadafirst.com*. "She actually pays attention." Wrote another, "Maybe having a little girl's perspective on things will be a refreshing change."

Emily is blithely unaware of the controversy, or of the odds against her as an off-by-boring-you-and-marching-on-national-TV. She is just digesting the effects of early fame. She is a *DayQuil* devotee on *Treehouse* in a million homes the day before school.

When she set foot in her Grade 2 classroom, her friends already knew she was a TV star in training. "They kept coming a piece and saying, over and over, 'I've seen your show. I've seen your show,'" Emily said via a conference call from her home in southwestern Ontario. It's hard to convey the idea of potential jealousy to a little girl who has just 10 minutes to talk before gym class, so the question is, "Do they want to be famous, too?" Says Emily, though fully, "I don't know yet."

Besides, Emily doesn't want to talk about fame. What she really wants to talk about are her fish Cappy, Flappy and Deano (all deceased), her Halloween costumes (she's going as Princess Jasmine, the heroine of *Aladdin*, with a small hat pinned to her hair like the queen's) and how she has babies with "little fishy things that look like English and make you smell good and change the colour of the water." [J. Johnson, eight-year-old co-creator and director of both *Tree* shows, is in on the interview and he bursts into laughter at Emily's riffs. "Her mind just runs," he says. "She is brilliant and it comes from a genuine place, which is even better."

Understandably, Johnson and co-creative producer Mark Bishop, 30, need some prompting to offer comparisons between Emily and Daniel, but they know the questions are inevitable. Here they are: the nutty chat-room postings?

"Fish," says Bishop. "And it's funny, too, because I think kids relate to Daniel right away." Adds, he says, may not appreciate the fact that Daniel got distracted. If a guest is talking and a plane flies overhead, he might look up and start talking about the plane, for example. "We would hope that," says Bishop, "and maybe adults would disagree that Daniel was paying attention, but for a six-year-old viewer, their mind is always focused."

Daniel also had a natural entre into his habit of reacting to the camera as if it were a person, says Johnson. "It's like he is in on it. Sometimes he will give a joke and a kind of wink." Johnson attributes this to Daniel's wonderfully playful personality. "These kinds of caricatures I don't really pay too much attention to," he says. "Kids cover the spectrum. They are happy and upset and bored and thrilled." Daniel often needed to be kept on task. "One time on the cover of the site," Bishop says, "we had somebody hand up a coconut and she was a moderator. Sometimes he likes a breath."

Daniel is getting his break now, although he will go on to do another show, *Dance Detect*, with Johnson and Bishop, to air on TV's next year. As for Emily, she has a holiday special airing in early December, and even bigger plans for her eighth birthday next April. She wears an algae hat, she says. "The ends to the side of the tank and suck up the algae. You don't need to feed the tank so much. You could say it will be eating like a vacuum cleaner." You can see why the kids love her. ■



MARK BISHOP: ACCORDING TO TV
"Policy" is rehab—it only happened because he was drinking. We've not done it, take-drunk during in Policy's case, it was drunk looking at the newspaper to answer pages. "Dagmar Colbert" was Policy in the news. He says that once he gets out he wants to turn over a new page. "David Letterman" "Who invented the Internet? Al Gore, a Democrat. If it was not for him, none of this would have happened." —Jeremy Klineal

Pierre Berton's extreme makeover

The Designer Guys take on the celebrated historian's childhood home in Dawson City

They can't make the house too comfortable. Russell Smith, who was the first writer to stay at the retreat, told his friend, Mukhi, that the Barton House was "really barren, really minimal," but that he had never been so productive. "There's a certain level of austerity to the idea of retreat," says Chast. "It's

"All of this rich heritage was just disappearing, and nobody seemed to care," Farmer laments. With any luck—and a new set of furnishings and some paint—that won't happen here. ■

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IF A RETIRED HUSBAND doesn't learn to extend empathy to his wife, she might want to rethink hire of the hourly fee for counseling.

Happy retirement. I want a divorce.

Learning to live with a husband you've barely spoken to in 30 years can be a bit of a shock

BY JULIA KROEMER • "So, is this how it's going to be?" Anna Kramers asks her newly widowed husband, the poet George Swede, who's officially in week six of retirement. The former psychology professor at Ryerson University in Toronto loves being home. "He's been going around the house in his underpants," says Kramers. Swede shoots her an embarrassed look. "Well, it's true!" says Kramers. "Haven't I been calling you Mr. Underpants?" The two are in good spirits, laughing and having a glass of wine before dinner. Earlier, they were in the front yard gardening. "I do the digging," says Kramers. "He breaks up."

The subject of underwear comes up when Swede and Kramers are the cover of a new book written by retired educator Mary Louche Floyd, *Retired with Husband: Supervised New Challenge*. It shows a photo of a doberman lion, from which hangs a pair of men's boxers (outlined by three pairs of women's ankles. Of the chosen apparel, husband should share, writes Floyd, laundry is one of the cover's. It involves "interaction with a big machine.")

Floyd's book is intended as a remedy for a mistakenly new phenomenon known as Grey Divorce. The term refers to the growing trend among older couples to divorce. According to a 2004 study by the American Association of Retired Persons, 66 per cent of those divorces are initiated by women. In many cases after 10 to 18 years of marriage, just when their husbands retire. Floyd's own mother "suddenly" divorced her father a year after he retired. Her parents had been married for 48 years. "I guess it was statistically [improbable] that my dad happens in my marriage," the author confesses. Writing the book was "a way of simply saying, 'Yeah, so it's all. You're

going to adapt half of it.' My husband's learned to cook on the grill. He's learned to empty the dishwasher."

In Japan, the author of the bestseller *Why Are Retired Fathers Such a nuisance?* coined the phrase "retirees' wives" to describe angry retired husbands who cling to their wives. Now that they no longer have work holidays to talk to, they seem to have lost their purpose in life. Floyd believes career women adjust more easily to retirement. Working women, multitalented, she says, capable of handling multiple domains: the kitchen, raising kids, career. Men tend to think of themselves as experts in one field, she says. A stressed wife must convince her husband he is a Renaissance man, capable of learning new things.

But first, says Floyd, women should prepare themselves to be surprised at what they learn about their husbands. "Because one reads only briefly in the evenings and in the evenings, the wives of women would find these jobs. One figure she's heard is that working spouses engage in only a half hour of meaningful conversation a week. "You may not have noticed differences in your support until now," she writes. "The stress of your divorce seemed exclusively built around the words our infection, even practice, report card, sleepover, allowance, birthday party..."

When Floyd herself faced the divorce

company of her husband, she had to put a stop to his habit of walking away from her in real conversations. "It is something men have to be taught. How to respond respectfully," she said. "It's a poor teacher, a wife can always remind him of the hourly fee for couples counselling, the verities."

Floyd cautions women that working husbands are used to using hands in a restaurant or cafeteria. "If he now expects you to assume that mental preposition role, you will be assigning yourself a new form of servitude. He's not your parent, he's your partner in your shared new adventure. 'Be better at for women' but not for hands," she says.

If a husband doesn't understand what's expected of him, try using the language he heard at work, she advises. "Long term goal," "vision statement," "behavior-based objectives." And if he balks at cooking, laundry, gardening, cleaning—all he wants to do is golf—Floyd says, "You simply stop laundering his clothes and buying the food he likes. You say with a smile, 'Oops, I forgot the beer and bananas. Maybe you could pick them up tomorrow and here's a grocery list while you're at it.'"

George Swede says he and his wife don't expect any marital discord when Kramers, also a Ryerson professor, retired nine years ago. They've always shared chores, she says. In fact, he says, they've always been aware that when they were raising two boys. "The children used to create conflict. Children do that."



MOST IMPROVED JACK NICHOLSON

It's not exactly a comeback victory over non-fatal disease. Hollywood's perennial bad boy is recovering from surgery to remove a stone from a salivary gland. While he's facing the post-surgical future with courage, he's slowing down. Nicholson still drinks beer, smokes and carouses, but he confesses that most nights he's home by 8 p.m. And these days the rebel seariness is becoming a little more innocuous. He enjoys riding parking for his oldies.



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Jack Nicholson

Going a little crazy from the heat



SCOTT
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When the Liberals were in power, we reached an important scientific understanding about the nature of climate change. If you talk about it for approximately an hour, and you do the sum total of "junk" and "heat" to actually address climate change does not take the first and go away. In fact, it gets worse. It gets both dirtier and changeier. Apparently it's sabbath this way.

Appearing recently before a House of Commons committee, Environment Minister Rona Ambrose nevertheless said that so far as the Conservative government is concerned, "Reno" is just a fancy Japanese word for "aluminum." That ship has sailed, baby. Canada can't meet its commitments to the world on climate change reduction, so it won't even try. Ambrose expressed that, instead, the time has come "for a brand new approach to the environment."

Like all Canadians, I look forward to Stephen Harper's announcement of this "brand new approach." Unlike all Canadians, I've taken the liberty of writing his speech for him.

MY FELLOW AMERICANS,

Well, I come before you as Prime Minister to reveal my government's brand new approach to the environment and global warming.

Without giving anything away, let me begin with a question: who out there loves a good sunset? I got one at 24 States and more, I'm telling you, nothing beats the heat! My colour and I—just try getting us out of there. Though Stockholm wouldn't join us till we had a two-metre sea level rise, I'd go going over. Also a problem: Poor guy couldn't get his mind off what I said must have gone up to three. My point is this: it's time for us to face up to the unthinkable. We're boned. The earth is experiencing its warmest temperatures in 12,000 years and, brother, that's not good. Change is now happening in Birkens stocks carpool to the hippie factory in Prius. Yes, if we set our minds to it we could pre-

ably help slow the progress of climate change—but that would require vision and leadership. [Unsure pause, place finger under shirt collar and pull in an exaggerated fashion while making the now-famous face.] Plus, there would need to be sacrifice. Let me just say this: I'm cool with asking soldiers and the firemen to make sacrifices. But oil companies and voters? That would require the aforementioned vision and leadership. I say again [pull collar, make face].

Besides, if Canada did do its share to control climate change, it would be but a small part of a global solution. That's what I want Canada to be a pioneer. I want Canada to lead the world on the global warming issue. And that is why we must expose no expense to ensure we're on the cutting edge of preparation.



Global warming won't stop, no matter how many longhairs in Birkenstocks carpool to the hippie factory in a Prius

ing the life after global warming.

Soon the earth shall be a watery children of oceans and swamp—it is our task to ensure that humanoid remains in the coating and most Canada of tomorrow is every bit as awesome as it was in Waterworld, although we are still probably die without the naked an costume to help.

Now as I address you this evening, I suspect some of you out there are wondering to yourselves: hey, when did Stephen Harper become prime minister. Did he have this divine sign?

No, I didn't. Like most Canadians, I was a land dweller in the time—a "herd." But the bright minds down at the National Research Council have helped me spur the policy pace of evolution—I mean, creation—and now, presto, I've got off there. I'm ready for whatever environmental roll comes due for mankind's health. Your move, polar ice caps. But while riding something, I guess this is

for you. I comprehend the fact that as times change, so will the qualities you look for in a leader. In the 1960s, people looked for intelligence, openness, an understanding that Canada could be greater than the sum of its parts. In the future, people will look for something different to a leader: guts, guts, guts. Maybe a nice handshake till the gentle fully embrace.

In the years ahead, I expect the usual parties bluster from the opposition parties. The Liberals will demand a national bipartisan report. The New Democrats will want the gays to be able to marry now or something. But we won't have time for that kind of busy-time nonsense.

With Canada poised in this exciting world of tomorrow? I ask you: is the focus Pope or phobias?

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MARLENE POTASH

1955-2008

She became an activist after losing her son. 'She bled for Adam. She thought she should have done more.'

Marlene Potash was born April 16, 1955, to parents Harvey and Shirley Lipkin. She, her sister Shelley, and brother Keith grew up in the north Winnipeg suburb of West Morden, home to a stable Jewish community. She earned a bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Manitoba, and at 21, married Jack Potash, a local real estate developer and her childhood sweetheart, both had attended Gordon City College. The couple had three boys, Adam, Cory and Ari. "Her life was her family," Jack told an interviewer last year. In the eyes of the community, her family was successful. "Everyone saw us as the lucky ones," said Jack. As a divorced mother and Jewish mother, Marlene was expected to care for her children in the north Winnipeg suburb of Timmins, until her son Adam killed himself on Nov. 1, 1999.

Marlene had been a private woman. But eight months after Adam's death, when she was 45, she began speaking openly about the tragedy. She became one of Winnipeg's most prominent voices for suicide prevention. At public lectures and in Winnipeg schools, she spoke about warning signs and worked to create the stigma of depression. "She wanted to help other people who had been touched by suicide," says her friend Shelley Silver.

The only subject Marlene didn't publicly discuss was the way her son ended his life. "To me, the cause of death is depression," Marlene said. "And I want the focus to be on the disease—not the link between depression and suicide—because ultimately that's what is most important." She moved out to survive, and in 2001 founded a support group called SPEAK (an acronym for Suicide Prevention Education Awareness Knowledge). In 2004, she was nominated for a YMCA/YWCA Woman of Distinction Award for her work. Those days, her passion was connecting with kids, according to her close friend Bev Trudnik, executive director of the Mood Disorders Association of Manitoba. Marlene told them it was okay to talk about their feelings, to ask for help. "You are not alone," she recently told a Winnipeg classroom. "And I cannot change the past."

Adam was 19 when he died, his oldest and a beloved, intelligent boy. As a teacher and his mother, she had known him since he was born. He was funny and popular. Yet Adam had buried a sadness that

gripped him on and off since he was only 11. And in September 1999, days after returning from Camp Maanad—a Hebrew immersion camp near Winnipeg where he'd been a camper growing up, and on staff for the previous four summers—he attempted suicide by swallowing a mix of sleeping pills and rum.

It was the first time his parents were alerted to the depth of his depression. "I tried making his favourite foods," Marlene said. "I'd

sit beside him and watch TV. I just thought, 'Love has, and love, protect him.'" Once, she found him sobbing alone in his bedroom. "He hadn't even bothered to shut the door. I came in and I held him. He was just crying and crying. And I said, 'Adam, tell me, tell me, what is it? What is it? What is it?' 'What can I help you with?'" Soon after that, Adam ended his life by hanging himself in the family's garage.

She didn't see the warning signs, Marlene told the *Winnipeg Free Press* in an article about suicide published last month, precisely because she didn't know what to look for. By then Marlene was herself battling depression. "She bled for Adam right up to the end," Bev says. "She blamed it itself—she thought she should have done more. She never healed."

On Sept. 13, Bev Trudnik had lunch with Lee at Kelly's Café in Fort Garry Place, where they both had offices. Marlene, who was scheduled to speak at a conference, told her that she was really, really sad. "I had no idea that she was really, really sad," Bev says. "But by the end of the day, she had gone out shopping and bought herself a jacket and made an appointment to have her nails done." "These were 'all the right things to do' that she was making sure and doing," Bev says. "Three days later, on Sept. 16, Marlene took her own life. Jack found her body, seven years after he had found the body of his son."

Bev worries that Marlene's death might encourage others who are struggling with a mental illness to give up. "Marlene knew how to get help, knew the resources available to her, and had the very best mental health care, a lot of family support, good friends—all the things a lot of people don't have." In the eulogy she delivered to a standing room only funeral at Winnipeg's Sharnay Ziskind Synagogue, Bev, still in shock over her friend's death, asked the assembled not to judge Marlene, or her final act.

BY NANCY MACDONALD



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